

Hartford Courant



VOLUME CLXXXVI

COURANT.COM

THURSDAY, JULY 7, 2022

DEEP RIVER



Desiree Dominique is joined by civil rights activists at a news conference in Deep River on Wednesday to ask for the State Attorney's office to file a hate crime charge against the man charged in the alleged assault of her 11-year-old son. **DOUGLAS HOOK/HARTFORD COURANT**

Hate crime charges sought in bike incident

DEEP RIVER — The family of the 11-year-old boy pushed off his bike by a Deep River man joined civil rights activists in a press conference on Wednesday to ask the State Attorney's office to file a hate crime charge against the suspect charged in the alleged assault.

Civil rights activist Dr. Boise Kimber said he and the family believe this was more of a hate crime than risk of injury to a young kid.

"Why didn't he go push them over? Why did he have to single out this one biracial Black individual?" Kimber said. "That's who he singled out and told him, asked him the question, 'Are you from around here?' And 'if you're

Family, civil rights activists speak out after white man, 48, charged with pushing biracial child, 11, off his bicycle

By Mike Mavredakis
Hartford Courant

not from around here, get away from here.' You can't get no more hated than that."

The child, who is biracial, was pushed off his bike by a middle-aged white man while riding around town with his friends on June 27, according to a video taken by one of his friends.

The child returned home after the incident and was shaken up, according to his mother, Desiree Dominique. He was out riding his bike with friends when one of them bumped into a man. The man then started to yell at them, which was caught on video by one of his friends.

Turn to Hate crime, Page 2

"That's who he singled out and told him, asked him the question, 'Are you from around here?' And 'if you're not from around here, get away from here.' You can't get no more hated than that."

— Dr. Boise Kimber, civil rights activist

New Haven's new top cop pledges to build trust

Says accountability is key as department faces scrutiny

By Taylor Hartz
Hartford Courant

Karl Jacobson, a 15-year veteran of the New Haven Police Department, was sworn in as the city's new police chief by New Haven Mayor Justin Elicker during a ceremony at City Hall on Wednesday.

After a long wait for permanent leadership, New Haven finally has its new top cop, who said he plans to focus less on making arrests and writing tickets and more on connecting with the community, preventing crimes, practicing accountability and building trust at a time when the department is facing scrutiny.

Jacobson, who has been serving as assistant chief of the department, said he hopes to build a police department that the entire city can trust. This coming at the same time family members of Richard "Randy" Cox are calling for accountability after Cox was paralyzed while in New Haven police custody on June 19.

"I want all parts of the New Haven community to feel safe when the police arrive, that is our goal," Jacobson said.

Turn to Jacobson, Page 3



Mourners reflect Wednesday at a memorial site for the victims of Monday's mass shooting at a Fourth of July parade in Highland Park, Ill. The 21-year-old gunman made his first court appearance Wednesday and was denied bond. **JIM VONDRUSKA/GETTY**

Police: Illinois shooting suspect eyed 2nd attack

Shooter drove to Wis. after evading capture at rampage

By Michael Tarm, Kathleen Foody and Don Babwin
Associated Press

HIGHLAND PARK, Ill. — The man charged with killing seven people at an Independence Day parade confessed to police that he unleashed a hail of bullets from a suburban Chicago rooftop and

then fled to the Madison, Wisconsin, area, where he contemplated shooting up an event there, authorities said Wednesday.

The suspect returned to Illinois, where he was arrested, after deciding he was not prepared to pull off another attack in Wisconsin, Lake County Major Crime Task Force spokesman Christopher Covelli said at a news conference following a hearing where the 21-year-old man

Turn to Shooting, Page 2

Prof wins \$736K in suit

Also gets UConn job back after questioning management, favoritism

By Edmund H. Mahony
Hartford Courant

An assistant UConn professor has been awarded what is likely to be more than \$1 million after complaining a decade ago in a whistleblower suit that he was fired in retaliation for raising questions about mismanagement and favoritism in the school's business development laboratories.

The suit against the university by soon-to-be-reinstated business professor Luke Weinstein was filed in 2011 and wound its way through the state and federal courts — it reached the U.S. Court of Appeals twice — before Superior Court Judge Susan Peck recently ruled.

Peck said former business school Dean Paul Christopher Earley eliminated Weinstein's position after Weinstein persisted in expressing concern that cost cutting measures by Earley in the school's business accelerator program could jeopardize federal funding and that Earley allegedly made decisions that benefited his wife, Elaine Mosakowski, a tenured business professor who ran one of the accelerators.

Peck awarded Weinstein about \$736,000, concluding he was effectively fired by Earley in retaliation for the concerns he raised. She said his lawyer, Jacques Parenteau, is entitled to a yet to be determined sum to cover 11 years of litigation and expenses.

Turn to Weinstein, Page 3



Hundreds mourn former Bristol Mayor Art Ward at funeral

More than 250 mourners turned out Wednesday morning for the funeral of former Bristol Mayor Art Ward, who served three terms in the city's top office. **Connecticut, Page 1**

Key Trump adviser to testify for Jan. 6 panel

Pat Cipollone, the White House counsel to President Donald Trump who repeatedly fought Trump's efforts to overturn the 2020 election, has reached a deal to be interviewed Friday before the House committee investigating the Jan. 6 attack, according to people familiar with the inquiry. **Nation & World, Page 4**

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Hate crime

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The man then asked if he was from Connecticut. When the child said he was not, the man told him to “get the [expletive] out of my town,” according to Fox 61. In the video, the boy was then pushed off his bike in the middle of the street before the man turned and walked away.

Dominique said her son is still traumatized from the incident.

“He’s avoiding places and people,” she said.

The man was later identified as Jameson Chapman, 48, of Deep River. He was charged with third-degree assault, second-degree breach of peace and risk of injury to a child and taken to Hartford Correctional Center before posting bond. Dominique said they have seen him walking around town since being released.

Chapman was previously convicted of third-degree assault and a DUI, according to court records.

There have also been other occurrences of bias in recent weeks, according to Dominique.

Dominique told Kimber her other son was shot at with a BB gun by a white child three weeks ago, and the child was subse-

quently arrested. In the meantime, Dominique, Kimber and other civil rights activists plan to set up a meeting with Brian White, Superintendent of the Regional School District No. 4, and Deep River First Selectman Angus McDonald Jr.

The group is looking for engagement with the community and community leadership and want to be a part of the conversation on potential changes..

“Listen, white people cannot decide on how they’re going to treat Black people if Black people are not at the table,” Kimber said. “That meeting is no good if we are not at the table, we must be at the table to share our concerns on how we desire to be treated in a white society.”

McDonald and State Attorney Patrick Griffin did not return requests for immediate comment.

In a statement to the Hartford Courant, White said, “The Chester, Deep River, Essex and Region 4 Public Schools remain committed to providing support and assistance for our students, their families and the communities we serve. In light of recent events, our schools stand at the ready to partner with the Town of Deep River in its efforts to provide a safe, supportive community for its residents.”



Dr. Boise Kimber, president of the Connecticut State Missionary Baptist Convention, hosts a press conference on Wednesday with Desiree Dominique, the mother of the 11-year-old boy pushed off his bike in Deep River. DOUGLAS HOOK/HARTFORD COURANT

Shooting

from Page 1

was denied bond.

The parade shooting left another American community reeling — this time affluent Highland Park, home to about 30,000 near the Lake Michigan shore. More than two dozen people were wounded, some critically.

Covelli said it did not appear that the suspect had planned another attack in Wisconsin, but fled there, saw another Independence Day celebration and “seriously contemplated” firing on it. The assailant had ditched the semi-automatic rifle he used in Illinois, but he had another, similar rifle and about 60 more rounds with him, according to Covelli.

Police later found his phone in Middleton, Wisconsin, which is about 135 miles from Highland Park.

For hours before his arrest, police warned that the gunman

was still at large and that he should be considered armed and dangerous. Several cities near Highland Park canceled events. Most festivities in and around Wisconsin’s capital city went ahead.

Madison Police Chief Shon Barnes said Wednesday that the FBI urged the department on Monday evening to prepare its SWAT team because investigators believed the gunman could be in the area. Barnes said he was not warned at the time that the shooter was considering carrying out further attacks.

Lake County Assistant State’s Attorney Ben Dillon said in court that the gunman climbed the fire escape of a building above the Highland Park parade, “looked down his sights, aimed” and fired at people across the street. He left the shells of 83 bullets and three ammunition magazines on the rooftop. He initially evaded capture by disguising himself as a woman and blending into the fleeing crowd, according to police.

Some of the wounded remained hospitalized, Covelli said, and the death toll could rise. Already, the deaths from the shooting have left a 2-year-old boy without parents, families mourning the loss of beloved grandparents and a synagogue grieving the death of a congregant who for decades had also worked on the staff.

Lake County State’s Attorney Eric Rinehart said he planned to bring attempted murder and aggravated battery charges for each individual who was hurt.

“There will be many, many more charges coming,” he said at a news conference, estimating those would be announced this month.

If convicted of the first-degree murder charges, the gunman would receive a mandatory life sentence without the possibility of parole.

The suspect, Robert Crimo III, appeared in court by video. As the prosecutor described the shooting, he said little besides telling the judge that he did not have a lawyer.

On Tuesday, Thomas Durkin, a prominent Chicago-based lawyer, said he would represent Crimo and that he intended to enter a not guilty plea to all charges. But Durkin told the court Wednesday that he had a conflict of interest with the case. Crimo has been assigned a public defender.

Rinehart also left open the possibility of charging Crimo’s parents. Steve Greenberg, the lawyer for Crimo’s parents, told The Associated Press that the parents aren’t concerned about being charged with anything related to their son’s case.

Questions also arose about how the suspect could have skirted Illinois’ relatively strict gun laws to legally purchase five weapons, including the high-powered rifle used in the shooting, despite authorities being called to his home twice in 2019 for threats of violence and suicide.

Police went to the home following a call from a family member who said Crimo was threatening

“to kill everyone” there. Covelli said police confiscated 16 knives, a dagger and a sword, but said there was no sign he had any guns at the time, in September 2019. Police in April 2019 also responded to a reported suicide attempt by Crimo, Covelli said.

Illinois state police, who issue gun owners’ licenses, said Crimo applied for a license in December 2019. His father sponsored his application, and he purchased the semi-automatic rifles in 2020, according to Covelli.

In all, police said, he purchased five firearms, which were recovered by officers at his father’s home. He purchased four of the guns while he was under 21 and bought a fifth after his birthday last year.

The state police have defended how the application was handled. At the time, “there was insufficient basis to establish a clear and present danger” and deny the application, state police said in a statement.

Hartford Courant

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Published daily and Sunday by The Hartford Courant
Company (ISSN 1047-4153). Periodicals postage paid at
Hartford, CT. Postmaster send address changes to: The
Hartford Courant, P.O. Box 569, Hartford, CT 06141-0569.
Home delivery rates: Daily and Sunday (7 days), \$1799;
*Thursday through Sunday (4 days) \$1399; *Thursday, Friday
and Sunday (3 days) \$1250; Thursday and Sunday (2 days)
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LOTTERY

Wednesday, July 6

PLAY3 DAY 3 0 2 WB: 8
PLAY4 DAY 6 4 1 9 WB: 3

The late lotto numbers were not
drawn in time for this edition. For
results, please visit courant.com/lottery.

TUESDAY’S LATE NUMBERS
PLAY3 NIGHT 2 5 5 WB: 8
PLAY4 NIGHT 3 8 8 3 WB: 1
CASH 5 1 2 9 12 24
LUCKY FOR LIFE 8 15 23 33 48 LB: 7
LOTTO 9 23 27 30 35 41
Zero first-prize winning ticket(s)
sold.
MEGA MILLIONS
27 31 50 51 61 MB: 21 MP: 4
Friday’s est. Lotto jackpot: \$1.5M
Friday’s est. Mega Millions jackpot: \$400M

DANA SHERWOOD

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Dana Sherwood, *The Confectionary Lives of Artists and Other Organisms*, 2021. Resin, clay, glass bell jars with snails, natural material, and cake. Courtesy of the artist and Denny Dimin Gallery, New York. Photograph by Paul Mutino

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FRIDAYS IN Living

FROM PAGE ONE

Energy supplier to quit Conn. market in \$3M settlement

By Stephen Singer
Hartford Courant

A Norwalk energy firm will exit Connecticut’s electric supplier market in a \$3 million settlement resolving allegations it failed to publish money-saving rate information, state Attorney General William Tong and Consumer Counsel Claire Coleman said Wednesday.

Public Power, which was acquired by Vistra Group, a fund administrator and corporate service provider, failed to publish “next cycle rate” information, denying consumers the opportunity to switch to another supplier

and avoid a rate increase, Tong and Coleman said.

As part of the agreement, Public Power and three related companies will exit the electric supplier market. A fourth company will exit the market in September. The state Public Utilities Regulatory Authority also was a party to the settlement.

Public Power and Vistra did not immediately respond to emailed requests for comment.

Public Power withheld basic required rate information that consumers needed to make an informed choice, Tong said. Connecticut regulators gave the

company an opportunity to correct that error, but it refused, he said.

“Consumers are entitled to timely and accurate information about electric rates,” Coleman said. “Public Power failed to provide the required transparency to its customers.”

Money from the settlement will be used to pay down accumulated, unpaid electric bills for hardship customers.

PURA discovered in 2018 that many third-party electric suppliers had failed to provide correctly “next cycle rate” information on customer bills that provides advance information about a rate change, and the

opportunity to switch to a possibly lower-cost supplier.

Connecticut regulators and consumer protection officials have cracked down before on third-party electricity suppliers. In March 2020 electric suppliers were ordered to issue credits to about 100,000 customers as part of an investigation of rate violations. Credits issued by 22 third-party electric suppliers to ratepayers were the result of a decision by the state Public Utilities Regulatory Authority following its investigation into amnesty for suppliers for the next cycle rate violations.

Third-party suppliers began

business in Connecticut in response to markets that were deregulated in the late 1990s and early 2000s, allowing companies to compete with standard service offered by the state’s two regulated electric utilities, Eversource and United Illuminating. Complaints mounted about aggressive door-to-door sales pitches, violations of state and federal “Do Not Call” lists and misleading advertisements.

The General Assembly and then-Gov. Dannel P. Malloy enacted tougher regulations in 2014.

Stephen Singer can be reached at ssinger@courant.com.

Jacobson

from Page 1

Under his leadership, he said the department will do things differently than it has in the past.

“Our measures of success will not be the number of arrests we make or the number of traffic citations we issue, but rather our interactions with the community and the reduction of crime, fear and disorder in New Haven,” he said.

The mayor said he is confident that Jacobson is the right choice to lead the department, adding that he and Jacobson “share a similar vision for public safety: one that centers on community policing.”

The chief plans to create data-driven policing strategies, use data to identify threats and implement new problem solving techniques for officers — who he vowed will be properly trained, supported and held accountable — to employ in the field.

Jacobson called on his officers to report for duty each day with integrity, confidence, courage, committee, compassion, restraint and respect.



Karl Jacobson, a 15-year veteran of the New Haven Police Department, was sworn in as the city’s new police chief Wednesday by New Haven Mayor Justin Elicker during a ceremony at City Hall. **COURANT STAFF PHOTO**

Elicker said that Jacobson’s time on the police force in New Haven has so far afforded him countless opportunities to connect with the community, to commiserate with people who face challenges, and to show them at any moment he is ready to show up at the scene to respond to a call to engage with people, even though these conversations can be very difficult and challenging.

“What I think Chief Jacobson’s real value is that he is open, kind-hearted and very genuine,” said Elicker. “He’s built relationships with people in this community over many, many years.”

Jacobson’s daughter, 18-year-old Kelli Jacobson, participated in her father’s swearing-in ceremony, proudly pinning him before he took his oath. The rising sophomore at the University of New Haven is already following in her father’s footsteps, studying criminal justice with plans to also become a police officer.

She said her father has been focused on strengthening trust between the police force and community members over the course of his career, and she thinks he will only continue to make those connections stronger as chief.

“Building trust is a big thing that

he’ll definitely do. He’s always had [the] community on his mind and wants to build bonds with the community,” she said.

Daniel Hunt, a commissioner for the Hamden Human Services Commission who grew up in New Haven, said he has high hopes for the new police chief.

“I think he’s going to bring stabilization to the police department and the community and help build on that community policing and engagement aspect,” he said. “And I think that things are going to get done and people are going to feel safer.”

The city’s Board of Alders voted unanimously to approve Jacobson for police chief on Tuesday after what the mayor called a challenging process to fill the position. They previously rejected Elicker’s nomination of Renee Dominguez, who has since retired.

The mayor thanked the police department for their professionalism during the long interim and thanked the residents of New Haven for being a part of the “lengthy community input process.”

Elicker said that the city has

“gone through many chiefs in the last few years,” which he hopes won’t be the pattern in the future.

“As you can imagine, that can be very disruptive. I believe Chief Jacobson is sticking around for the long term and I think that’s a wonderful thing for the department,” the mayor said.

Jacobson said that, in his first move as police chief, he plans to build a diverse command staff.

“I want a command staff that has different opinions than me,” he said, adding that he wants people surrounding him that will brainstorm different ideas and consider other perspectives that will help him make more informed decisions.

He also wants to address and reduce rates of violence and homicides so that people feel safe.

“Off the bat, we want to keep everybody safe on Friday,” he said, referencing Friday’s planned March for Justice for Randy Cox, which begins at 5 p.m. at the Stetson Branch Library at 197 Dixwell Ave. and ends at the New Haven Police Department. “We want to allow people to have a voice and allow them to protest while also

keeping the city safe,” he said.

The march is being held as the NAACP, Cox’s family members and their attorneys, including civil rights lawyer Ben Crump, who represented the family of George Floyd, amplify the story of the 36-year-old New Haven man who was paralyzed after a police officer made a hard stop that sent him flying into the wall of the van headfirst after he was handcuffed and without a seatbelt.

Cox was eventually brought to a hospital where he was paralyzed from the chest down except for some movement in one arm, his family said at a press conference in late June.

The case is currently under investigation by the Connecticut State Police. At least five police personnel have been put on paid leave while the investigations are ongoing. Jacobson said that the department would take all necessary actions to make sure that what happened to Cox will not happen to anyone else and said that, if criminal charges are deemed necessary, the department will arrest its officers.

On Wednesday, shortly after

Jacobson’s swearing-in, U.S. Attorney for the District of Connecticut, Vanessa Avery, issued a statement that her office was closely monitoring the investigation into what happened to Cox.

Avery acknowledged that “all suspects taken into police custody must be afforded timely and appropriate medical care in the event of an emergency.”

Despite his injuries, Cox was taken to a detention facility before he was taken to the hospital, according to records.

Avery said the city’s mayor and the new police chief have “acted expeditiously and reported publicly on some actions already taken at the local level in response to this incident, including the suspension of several officers involved pending further investigation,” and have vowed to reform their department’s practices. She also said that the justice department will take further action regarding Cox’s case if needed.

“If federal action is warranted, the Justice Department will pursue every available avenue to the full extent of the law,” Avery said.

Weinstein

from Page 1

Attorney General William Tong’s office, which defended the suit, declined comment and UConn did not address specific points raised by Peck’s decision.

“UConn is reviewing the decision and considering its options in this matter, which has had a lengthy procedural history,” spokesman Stephanie Reitz said.

The comprehensive, 58-page decision raises questions about the effectiveness of UConn’s internal ethics and compliance agency, the Office of Audit Compliance and Ethics, which was established in 2006 to investigate compliance issues and advise employees.

Weinstein complained in person and in writing to the office. Then-director Rachel Rubin testified in the suit that she believed the complaints were made “in good faith,” but did not investigate,

according to the decision. Instead, Rubin referred Weinstein to the state Commission on Human Rights and Opportunities.

“Rubin never took any action to investigate the plaintiff’s claim of retaliation,” the judge’s decision said. “Rubin’s advice to the plaintiff to go to the CHRO indicates that she understood his claims to concern retaliation.”

When concerns were brought to her attention that Earley allegedly had tried to increase grant money available to his wife, Rubin raised questions about favoritism with the university provost, who chose not to respond, according to the judge’s decision.

John Mathieu, former head of the UConn Management Department, testified “that Rubin told him that she brought the nepotism concerns to the Provost, but that the Provost just stared back at her and did not respond. Ultimately, on June 24, 2010, Rubin sought informal advice from the State

Office of Ethics on the nepotism issue involving Dean Earley and Dr. Mosakowski,” the decision said.

Parenteau said, “What is astounding, ‘is the degree to which high level administrators are found to have just ignored their obligations to enforce policies of the University of Connecticut. This is kind of an acknowledgement that they were powerless to enforce their own rules when you are dealing with senior managers.’”

Weinstein earned a doctorate in marketing and management from UConn and was discussing positions with four schools when UConn offered to hire him as an assistant professor in residence, with additional responsibilities as director as the Innovation Accelerator.

The accelerators are experiential learning centers operated by the business school to train students and support entrepreneurs.

Weinstein took the job and

was reappointed annually with outstanding performance evaluations.

According to the decision, Weinstein had little interaction with Earley until 2010. At that point, Earley decided to save money by changing the way the school compensated the graduate students who worked 35 to 40 hours a week at Weinstein’s accelerator.

Under the proposal, the students would no longer be paid as employees, which gave them coverage under worker’s compensation, but would compensated with fellowships, without worker’s compensation protection. Weinstein questioned whether the change would violate labor law and other policy that could jeopardize federal funding, according to the judge’s decision.

Weinstein also questioned whether there were potential policy violations in work Mosakowski’s accelerator was doing in

interviewing “underage Special Olympics athletes” without prior approval or parental consent.

At one point, according to the decision, Earley wrote Weinstein, “I don’t want to hear yet again about the labor law issue or the fellowship ... I’m getting rather tired of roadblocks thrown up that I have addressed and I see it as counterproductive to what we are trying to achieve.”

Earley notified Weinstein in July 2010 that he would not be reappointed as director of the Innovation accelerator. Among the reasons was that Weinstein did not submit the “requisite letter of interest and CV and provide specific assurances to me that you were will and able to embrace the new program design.” Earley notified him in another letter that he was not being reappointed as a professor.

Earley left UConn in 2011. Mosakowski also no longer works there.



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Cipollone to testify for Jan. 6 panel

Key Trump adviser may give insight on plot to overturn vote

By Maggie Haberman and Luke Broadwater
The New York Times

Pat Cipollone, the White House counsel to President Donald Trump who repeatedly fought Trump's efforts to overturn the 2020 election, has reached a deal to be interviewed Friday before the House committee investigating the Jan. 6 attack, according to people familiar with the inquiry.

The agreement was a breakthrough for the panel, which has pressed for weeks for Cipollone to cooperate — and issued a subpoena to him last week — believing he could provide crucial testimony.

Cipollone was a witness to pivotal moments in Trump's push to invalidate the election results, including discussions about seizing voting machines and sending false letters to state officials about election fraud. He was also in the West Wing on Jan. 6, 2021, as Trump reacted to the violence at the Capitol, when his supporters attacked the building in his name.

People close to Cipollone have repeatedly cautioned that concerns about executive privilege and attorney-client privilege could limit his cooperation.

But committee negotiators have pressed to hear from Cipollone and Patrick Philbin, who was his deputy in the White House.

Cipollone will sit for a videotaped, transcribed interview, according to a person familiar with



The House Jan. 6 committee brokered a deal for ex-White House counsel Pat Cipollone to testify. J. SCOTT APPLEWHITE/AP 2020

the discussions. He is not expected to testify publicly.

A committee spokesperson declined to comment.

The panel's push to hear from Cipollone intensified after the testimony last week of Cassidy Hutchinson, a former White House aide to the chief of staff, Mark Meadows. Hutchinson described detailed conversations with Cipollone in which she said the counsel had expressed deep concerns about the actions of Trump and Meadows.

Some allies of Trump have privately tried to cast doubt on parts of Hutchinson's testimony, which was the committee's most explosive to date and was delivered

under oath.

Trump has tried to invoke executive privilege — a president's power to withhold the release of certain confidential communications with his advisers — to prevent his former aides from cooperating with the investigation.

In April, Cipollone and Philbin both appeared for informal interviews with the panel on a limited set of topics, according to an agreement reached by their representatives and representatives for Trump.

The agreement, according to an email reviewed by The New York Times, allowed discussions of a meeting with Jeffrey Clark, a Justice

Department official who tried to help Trump cling to power; Trump's interactions with John Eastman, the conservative lawyer who drafted a legal strategy for overturning the election; any interactions with members of Congress; and Cipollone's recollections of the events of Jan. 6.

The agreement said that the two men could not discuss conversations they had or others had with Trump, other than one discussion in the Oval Office with Clark in a pivotal meeting on Jan. 3, 2021.

However, both were permitted to discuss the timeline of where they were, with whom they

met and conversations they had on Jan. 6. Assuming those conditions hold for Cipollone's forthcoming testimony, they would presumably cover conversations such as ones he may have had with Hutchinson or other officials that day.

Hutchinson told the panel that she recalled that on Jan. 6, Cipollone had objected to suggestions that Trump join a crowd at the Capitol pressuring to overturn the results of the election.

"We're going to get charged with every crime imaginable," Hutchinson recalled Cipollone saying.

People familiar with Cipollone's schedule on Jan. 6, 2021, say he arrived late to

the White House, although it was unclear precisely when.

According to Hutchinson, Cipollone urged Meadows to do more to persuade Trump to call off the rioters. Hutchinson also told investigators that she heard lawyers from the White House Counsel's Office say a plan to put forward pro-Trump electors in states won by Joe Biden was not "legally sound."

Members of the House committee had hoped that Cipollone would testify publicly at a previous hearing, but he declined. They then took their case public. From the hearing room dais, Rep. Liz Cheney, R-Wyo., singled out the former White House counsel by name, saying, "Our committee is certain that Donald Trump does not want Mr. Cipollone to testify here. But we think the American people deserve to hear from Mr. Cipollone personally."

Any damaging account from Cipollone of Trump's post-election actions would be a dramatic change of circumstance from Trump's first impeachment trial, when Cipollone was his chief defender.

During the first impeachment, Cipollone accused Rep. Adam Schiff, D-Calif., who served as a prosecutor in that trial and now sits on the Jan. 6 committee, of making false allegations against Trump.

A year later, as Trump pressed on with plans to try to overturn his defeat, Cipollone and other White House lawyers repeatedly threatened to resign if Trump went forward with some of the more extreme proposals urged on him, ultimately persuading him to back off.

Report details how police missed chances in Uvalde

Officer had gunman in rifle sights before deadly school attack

By Paul J. Weber and Jake Bleiberg
Associated Press

AUSTIN, Texas — A police officer armed with a rifle watched the gunman in the Uvalde elementary school massacre walk toward the campus but did not fire while waiting for permission from a supervisor to shoot, according to a sweeping critique released Wednesday on the tactical response to the May tragedy.

Some of the 21 victims at Robb Elementary School, including 19 children, possibly "could have been saved" May 24 had they received medical attention sooner while police waited more than an hour before breaching the fourth-grade classroom, a review by a training center at Texas State University for active shooter situations found.

The report is another damning assessment of how police failed to act on opportunities that might have saved lives in what became the deadliest school shooting in the country since the slaughter at Sandy Hook Elementary School in 2012.

"A reasonable officer would have considered this an active situation and devised a plan to address the suspect," read the report published by the university's Advanced Law Enforcement Rapid Response Training program.

Authors of the 26-page report said their findings were based off video taken from the school, police body cameras, testimony from officers on the scene and statements from investigators. Among their findings:

■ It appeared that no officer waiting in the hallway during the shooting ever tested to see if the door to the classroom was locked. The head of Texas' state police agency has also faulted officers for not checking the doors.

■ The officers had "weapons (including rifles), body armor (which may or may not have been rated to stop rifle rounds), training and backup. The victims in the classrooms had none of these things."

■ When officers finally entered the classroom at 12:50 p.m. — more than an hour after the shooting began — they were no better equipped to confront the gunman than they had been up to that point.

■ "Effective incident

command" never appears to have been established among the multiple law enforcement agencies that responded to the shooting.

The gunman, an 18-year-old with an AR-15-style semi-automatic rifle, entered the building at 11:33 a.m. Before that a Uvalde police officer, who the report did not identify, saw the gunman carrying a rifle toward the west hall entrance. The officer asked a supervisor for permission to open fire, but the supervisor "either did not hear or responded too late," the report said.

When the officer turned back toward the gunman, he already had gone inside "unabated," according to the report.

The report is one of multiple fact-finding reviews launched in the aftermath of the worst school shooting in Texas history. A committee formed by Texas legislators has also interviewed more than 20 people, including officers who were on the scene, behind closed doors for several weeks. It is unclear when they will release their findings.

It follows testimony last month in which Col. Steven McCraw, director of the Texas Department of Public Safety, told the state Senate



A 26-page report lists how police failed to act on opportunities that might have saved lives May 24. Above, investigators search for evidence the next day outside the school. JAE C. HONG/AP

that the police response was an "abject failure."

He pinned particular blame on Chief Pete Arredondo, saying that as on-scene commander the Uvalde schools police chief made "terrible decisions" and stopped officers from confronting the gunman earlier.

Arredondo has tried to defend his actions, telling the Texas Tribune that he didn't consider himself the commander in charge of operations and that he assumed someone else had taken control of the law

enforcement response.

According to the report released Wednesday, Arredondo and another Uvalde police officer spent 13 minutes in the school hallway during the shooting discussing tactical options, whether to use snipers and how to get into the classroom windows.

"They also discussed who has the keys, testing keys, the probability of the door being locked, and if kids and teachers are dying or dead," the report read.

Arredondo is on leave from his job with the Uvalde

Consolidated Independent School District and resigned from his position as a city councilor last week.

Texas Gov. Greg Abbott and other public leaders initially praised the police response in Uvalde. Abbott said officers reacted quickly and ran toward the gunfire with "amazing courage" to take out the killer.

He later said he was misled.

In the days and weeks after the shooting, authorities gave conflicting and incorrect accounts of what happened.



Baby formula from Puerto Rico awaits buyers last month at a store in Yonkers, New York. TED SHAFFREY/AP

US aims to keep foreign baby formula suppliers in market

By Zeke Miller
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The Biden administration is trying to help foreign makers of baby formula stay in the U.S. market for the long term, in an effort to diversify the industry after the closing of the largest domestic plant sparked a nationwide shortage.

The Food and Drug Administration on Wednesday announced plans to help overseas producers that

have sent supplies to the United States under emergency approval to secure long-term authorization to market their formula in the U.S.

The agency will provide a way for producers temporarily selling in the U.S. to meet existing regulatory requirements so they can stay in the market, providing consumers with more choices and making supplies more resilient against current and future shortages.

The FDA will also host

meetings and provide producers with a single point of contact to work through the regulatory system to make the application process more efficient.

"The need to diversify and strengthen the U.S. infant formula supply is more important than ever," said the FDA commissioner, Dr. Robert Califf, and Susan Mayne, the director of the agency's Center for Food Safety and Applied Nutrition, in a statement. "The recent shutdown of a

major infant formula plant, compounded by unforeseen natural weather events, has shown just how vulnerable the supply chain has become."

The U.S. has tried to boost supply of baby formula after regulators in February shuttered a Michigan plant run by Abbott, the largest domestic manufacturer, over safety concerns. The plant reopened June 4 after the company committed to additional sanitizing and safety protocols, but

closed again in mid-June after severe weather caused damage to the plant.

The company said it needs time to assess damage and sanitize the factory again after severe thunderstorms and heavy rains swept through southwestern Michigan on June 13.

In May, the FDA eased federal import regulations to allow baby formula to be shipped to the U.S., and has cleared the equivalent of 400 million 8-ounce bottles for import into the U.S.

WORLD & NATION

WAR IN UKRAINE

Russia batters rebel-claimed region

Ukraine says some of enemy's advances reversed in Donbas

By Francesca Ebel and Maria Grazia Murru Associated Press

KRAMATORSK, Ukraine — Russia redoubled its push for Ukraine's eastern Donbas region Wednesday, with the Ukrainian military claiming to have repelled some advances as shelling killed at least eight civilians in the area over the past 24 hours and wounded 25.

Pro-Russia separatists said Ukrainian attacks killed four civilians on their side of the front.

The Ukrainian armed forces general staff said troops stopped enemy units advancing toward Sloviansk, a city in Donetsk, one of two provinces in the Donbas whose capture is among Moscow's main goals.

It also claimed to have repelled Russian attacks on a town and village north of Ukraine's second city, Kharkiv, just miles from the Russian border.

The Ukrainian presidential office said most civilian casualties were in Donetsk province, where Gov. Pavlo Kyrylenko urged the province's more than 350,000 remaining residents to flee late Tuesday, saying that evacuating Donetsk was necessary to save lives and allow the Ukrainian army to put up a better defense against the Russian advance.

Donetsk is part of the Donbas, a mostly Russian-speaking industrial area where Ukraine's most experienced soldiers are concentrated. Pro-Russian separatists have fought Ukrainian forces and controlled much of the Donbas for eight years.

Before Russia invaded Ukraine on Feb. 24, Russian President Vladimir Putin



A Ukrainian journalist tours the ruins Wednesday of university buildings in Kharkiv, Ukraine. EVGENIY MALOLETKA/AP

recognized the independence of Donetsk and Luhansk, the two self-proclaimed separatist republics.

Putin on Monday declared the complete seizure of Luhansk, after Ukrainian troops withdrew from the last city under their control in the province.

Luhansk Gov. Serhiy Haidai denied Wednesday that the Russians had completely captured the province. Heavy fighting continued in villages around Lysychansk, the city Ukrainians soldiers withdrew from and which Russian troops took Sunday, he said.

He accused Russian forces of scorched-earth tactics, "burning down and destroying everything on their way."

The Russian military pounded Luhansk for weeks from the air and ground, causing mass destruction

and large civilian casualties. When Russian troops enter villages and cities, they are largely empty. From pre-war populations each of around 100,000, only up to 15,000 residents remain in Lysychansk and some 8,000 in the nearby city of Sievierodonetsk, which Russian and separatist fighters seized last month, Haidai said.

Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy, in his nightly video address Wednesday, said that of all the battles in his country, "the most brutal confrontation" is raging in the Donbas.

Separatist authorities in Donetsk province said Wednesday that four civilians were killed and 14 wounded in Ukrainian shelling over the previous 24 hours.

News reports said shelling hit an ammunition depot on

Tuesday, triggering massive explosions.

North of Donetsk, Russian forces hit Kharkiv with missiles overnight. Kharkiv regional Gov. Oleh Syniehubov said Wednesday on Telegram that one person was killed and three, including a toddler, were injured. Zelenskyy said the main building, lecture halls, museum and library of a Kharkiv university were destroyed.

"When it comes to the definition of barbarism, this strike fits the bill the most," the Ukrainian president said in his nightly address. "Only an enemy of civilization and humanity can do such things."

The attacks indicated that city residents are unlikely to enjoy calm as the war grinds into its fifth month.

Providing its account of the fighting in Kharkiv,

Russia's Defense Ministry said its forces killed up to 100 Ukrainian troops and destroyed four armored vehicles. The ministry also said its forces struck a Ukrainian air-defense radar and camp housing foreign fighters in southern Ukraine's Mykolaiv region.

The ministry's chief spokesman, Igor Konashenkov, claimed air-launched high precision missiles destroyed two U.S.-supplied HIMARS multiple-launch rocket systems. The Ukrainian military denied Moscow's claims.

Elsewhere on the battlefield, Russian rocket strikes wounded four people in the town of Pokrovska in Ukraine's eastern Dnipropetrovsk region, Gov. Valentyn Reznichenko wrote on Telegram. He added that four settlements to the

west came under relentless shelling Wednesday, burning wheat fields, damaging a solar power plant and destroying a house.

In southern Ukraine, a local official said one person died and four were wounded in a blast that tore through a residential building in a Russian-occupied town, Skadovsk. Mayor Oleksandr Yakovlev told the Suspilne broadcaster a child was among those injured.

Russian state media claimed Wednesday that an oil refinery in Donetsk had caught fire due to Ukrainian shelling. The Tass news agency cited a separatists' claim that the refinery fire was one of 27 Ukrainian attacks on Donetsk over the previous 24 hours. Ukrainian authorities didn't immediately confirm the attack.



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WORLD & NATION

Immigration detention ghost town

Private Calif. facility for housing migrants stands nearly empty

By Amy Taxin
Associated Press

LOS ANGELES — A sprawling, privately run detention center in the windswept California desert town of Adelanto could house nearly 2,000 migrants facing the prospect of deportation. These days, though, it's nearly empty.

The Adelanto facility is an extreme example of how the U.S. government's use of guaranteed minimum payments in contracts with private companies to house immigrant detainees might have a potential financial downside. In these contracts, the government commits to pay for a certain number of beds, whether they're used or not.

The government pays for at least 1,455 beds a day at Adelanto, but so far this fiscal year reports an average daily population of 49 detainees. Immigrant advocates say the number of detainees at Adelanto is currently closer to two dozen because authorities can't bring in more migrants under a federal judge's 2020 pandemic-related ruling.

The U.S. government pays to guarantee 30,000 immigration detention beds are available in four dozen facilities across the country, but so far this fiscal year about half, on average, have been occupied, according to Immigration and Customs Enforcement data. Over the past two years, immigration detention facilities across the United States have been underutilized as authorities were forced to space out detainees — in some cases, such as at Adelanto, by court order — to limit the spread of COVID-19.

"The government is still paying them to keep the facility open," said Lizbeth Abeln, deportation defense director at the Inland Coal-



A guard stands in the intake area at the Adelanto ICE Processing Center in Adelanto, Calif. The sprawling facility can house nearly 2,000 immigrant detainees. These days, however, the privately run detention center is nearly empty. **CHRIS CARLSON/AP2019**

tion for Immigrant Justice in Southern California. "It's really concerning they're still getting paid for all the beds every single day. It's empty."

At a facility in Tacoma, Washington, the guaranteed minimum is 1,181 beds and the average daily population so far this fiscal year is 369, according to official data. A detention center in Jena, Louisiana, has a minimum of 1,170 beds, with an average daily population of 452.

ICE currently reports 23,390 detainees in custody, official data shows. The agency has long spent money on unused detention space by including guaranteed minimum payments in its contracts, according to a Government Accountability Office report focused on the years before the pandemic. The minimum number of beds the government paid to guarantee rose 45% from the 2017 fiscal year to May 2020, the report said.

Officials at ICE's headquarters were asked to comment and initially did not. On Monday, an agency spokesperson said in an email that ICE doesn't comment on pending litigation and is complying with the court's order regarding Adelanto.

In annual budget documents, officials said the agency aims to use 85% to 90% of detention space generally, and pays to have guaranteed minimum beds ready to go in case they're needed. Officials wrote that they need flexibility to deal with emergencies or sudden big increases in border crossings. They said safety and security are the top priority at the detention centers, while acknowledging the pandemic "greatly decreased bed utilization."

The average cost of a detention bed was \$144 each day during the last fiscal year, the documents show. Immigrant advocates say

the pandemic is proof that the U.S. doesn't need to detain immigrants as much as authorities have claimed. Deportation agents have ramped up use of a monitoring app to keep tabs on immigrants heading for deportation hearings instead of locking people up, they said. As of June, the agency was tracking more than 200,000 people using the SmartLink app, the government's data shows.

"The federal government, probably like all of us, didn't think COVID would go on this long," said Michael Kaufman, senior staff attorney at the American Civil Liberties Union of Southern California, which sued for the release of detainees in Adelanto. "This has been an accidental test case that shows they don't need a detention capacity anywhere near what they're saying."

The Adelanto facility — which is run by the Boca

Raton, Florida-based Geo Group — is one of the biggest in the country and often houses immigrants arrested in the greater Los Angeles area. It has long been subject to complaints by detainees of shoddy medical care, and on a 2018 visit to the facility inspectors also found nooses in detainees' cells and overly restrictive segregation.

In August 2019, more than 1,600 detainees were held at the facility 60 miles north-east of Los Angeles, according to a state report.

Soon after COVID-19 hit, immigrant advocates sued over safety concerns. U.S. District Judge Terry Hatter barred ICE from bringing in new detainees and capped the number of detainees at 475. He ordered detainees be spaced out and have room to stretch, walk and use the restroom and shower, and noted an unknown number of staff and detainees didn't wear masks.

"This case involves hu-

man lives whose reasonable safety is entitled to be enforced and protected by the Court pursuant to the United States Constitution," Hatter wrote in 2021.

Since then, immigration authorities have been bringing new detainees to a 750-bed annex in Adelanto that was previously a state prison. But immigrant advocates said the annex is also running well below occupancy.

Geo, which also runs the annex, declined to comment and referred all questions to Immigration and Customs Enforcement.

Thomas Giles, ICE's field office director for enforcement and removal operations in greater Los Angeles, said limited bed space locally means some immigrants detained in Southern California could be transferred elsewhere.

"Here in Los Angeles, we have only a limited amount of bed space so some of the people that we arrest, if we don't have bed space, we're going to fly them to Phoenix or Atlanta or another part of the country for bed space," Giles said during a recent interview. "That doesn't necessarily affect our operations, but it puts more logistics into it."

In Adelanto, the Department of Justice runs immigration courts where detainees have their deportation cases heard. Currently, judges in these courtrooms are hearing the cases of immigrants elsewhere in the country using video due to dwindling numbers at the desert facility, said Immigration Judge Mimi Tsankov, president of the National Association of Immigration Judges.

Over time, hundreds of detainees have been released on bond or due to health concerns or deported, and some wings of the facility have been closed down, said Eva Bitran, an ACLU staff attorney.

"It's a tremendous waste of resources," she said.



Revelers waiting for the launch of the "chupinazo" firework to mark the opening of the San Fermin festival gather on Wednesday in Pamplona, Spain. **ALVARO BARRIENTOS/AP**

Running of the bulls returns to Pamplona amid pandemic

By Irene Yague and Ciaran Giles
Associated Press

PAMPLONA, Spain — Thousands of revelers erupted in celebration Wednesday as the traditional "chupinazo" firework was ignited to start the San Fermin festival known for bulls running along cobble streets in the Spanish city of Pamplona, ending a two-year hiatus due to the coronavirus pandemic.

Rain did nothing to dampen the atmosphere as crowds, nearly all dressed in the traditional garb of white trousers and shirt with red sash and neckerchief, crammed the tiny town hall square for the event. After the firework exploded, the revelers continued spraying each other with red wine.

The highlight of the nine-day festival is the early morning "encierros," or bull runs, starting Thursday, when thousands of thrill-seekers scramble to avoid six bulls as they charge along a winding route to the city's bullring. Spectators watch from balconies and the wooden barricades set up to line the course.

The festival was made world famous by Ernest Hemingway's 1926 novel "The Sun Also Rises." Before the pandemic, it hadn't been suspended since the Spanish Civil War in the 1930s.

Pamplona's population of some 200,000 balloons to nearly a million on peak days during the festival, especially over the weekend.

Sheyla and John Dowd, who work in California's Silicon Valley, were among those thrilled that the party is back so they could partake in it for the first time. Sheyla Dowd said she would watch while John tested his legs against the bulls and the other frantic sprinters.

"It's been a longtime bucket-list wish to come. We were prepared to come before COVID, and we've been waiting and waiting and waiting and we are very excited to be here today," she said. "I am going to be cheering him from the top saying 'go, run faster!'"

Former soccer player and coach Juan Carlos Unzué had the honor of launching the little rocket from the town hall balcony. Unzué retired from coaching in 2018 after being diagnosed

with Lou Gehrig's disease, also called ALS.

"This 'chupinazo' is dedicated to all those health workers and people who helped us during the pandemic, and to all those suffering from ALS. Long live San Fermin," he shouted from a wheelchair to the throng below.

Pamplona Mayor Enrique Maya told Spanish state news agency EFE that although there was a lot of excitement this year, he was a little worried.

"We have the feeling there is such desire among people to have a good time that it might get out of hand," he said.

City officials reminded people that coronavirus infections are rising again and encouraged mask-wearing.

Animal rights protesters have also become a fixture in Pamplona. On the eve of this year's festival, dozens of activists dressed as dinosaurs and held "Bullfighting is Prehistoric" signs as they ran the route to protest what they see as animal cruelty.

Bulls used in the runs are killed by matadors each afternoon in the city ring.

Graham attorneys say senator to fight Ga. election subpoena

By Jill Colvin
Associated Press

NEW YORK — Attorneys representing Sen. Lindsey Graham of South Carolina said Wednesday that he intends to challenge a subpoena compelling him to testify before a special grand jury in Georgia investigating former President Donald Trump and his allies' actions after the 2020 election.

Graham was one of a handful of Trump confidants and lawyers named Tuesday in petitions filed by Fulton County District Attorney Fani Willis as part of her investigation into what she alleges was "a multi-state, coordinated plan by the Trump Campaign to influence the results of the November 2020 election in Georgia and elsewhere."

Graham attorneys Bart Daniel and Matt Austin said in a statement Wednesday that the Republican senator "plans to go to court, challenge the subpoena and expects to prevail," and they slammed the probe as politically motivated.

"This is all politics. Fulton County is engaged in a fishing expedition and working in concert with the Jan. 6 Committee in Washington," they wrote, adding that, "As Chairman of the Senate Judiciary Committee, Sen. Graham was well within his rights to discuss with state officials the processes and procedures around administering elections."

"Should it stand, the subpoena issued today would erode the constitutional balance of power and the ability of a Member of Congress to do their job," they went on.

They also said they had been informed by Fulton County investigators that Graham "is neither a subject nor target of the investigation."

"Should witnesses choose to challenge an order that



Attorneys for Sen. Lindsey Graham, above, slammed the Georgia probe as politically motivated. **SETH HERALD/GETTY**

they testify before the special purpose grand jury, the district attorney will respond in the appropriate court to compel their appearance," Fulton County district attorney's office spokesperson Jeff DiSantis said in an email.

In the petition submitted Tuesday, Willis wrote that Graham, a longtime Trump ally, made at least two telephone calls to Georgia Secretary of State Brad Raffensperger and members of his staff in the weeks after the November 2020 presidential election, which Trump lost to Democrat Joe Biden. During those calls, Graham asked about reexamining certain absentee ballots "to explore the possibility of a more favorable outcome for former President Donald Trump," she wrote.

The speech and debate clause of the U.S. Constitution shields members of the House and Senate from being questioned in court about their legislative activities and the motivations behind them. But prosecutors are likely to argue that Graham was acting far outside of his official duties when he questioned the top elections official of another state.

Willis also filed petitions to compel cooperation from former New York Mayor

Rudy Giuliani, who was one of Trump's primary lawyers during the failed efforts to overturn the result of the election, as well as lawyers Kenneth Chesebro, Cleta Mitchell, Jenna Ellis, John Eastman and Jacki Pick Deason.

Giuliani was recovering Tuesday after undergoing surgery to have two heart stents put in, said his son, Andrew Giuliani.

Because she is trying to compel testimony from people who live outside of Georgia, Willis had to submit petitions for a judge's approval. The judge overseeing the special grand jury signed off on her petitions.

The next step is to deliver the documents to a prosecutor wherever each potential witness lives so that they can be presented to a local judge to hold a hearing. If that judge determines that the person is a "material and necessary witness" and that the trip to Atlanta to testify would not be an undue burden on the potential witness, the judge would issue a subpoena to compel the person to testify before the special grand jury. Someone who fails to comply with a subpoena can be found in contempt.

The Atlanta Journal-Constitution contributed.

WORLD & NATION

Starved by conflict a continent away

Hunger crises wrack regions of Africa as world eyes Ukraine

By Cara Anna and Omar Faruk Associated Press

MOGADISHU, Somalia — More than two dozen children have died of hunger in the past two months in a single hospital in Somalia. Dr. Yahye Abdi Garun has watched their emaciated parents stumble in from rural areas gripped by the driest drought in decades. And yet no humanitarian aid arrives.

Shortly after Russia invaded Ukraine in late February, a donor who was preparing to give \$500,000 to a Somali aid group told its executive director Hussein Kulmiye it was redirecting the money to help Ukrainians instead.

And now, as Somalis fleeing the drought fill more than 500 camps in the city of Baidoa, aid workers make “horrific” choices to help one camp and ignore 10 others, Norwegian Refugee Council Secretary General Jan Egeland said, telling The Associated Press that he is “angry and ashamed.” His group’s Ukraine appeal was fully funded within 48 hours, but its Somalia appeal is perhaps a quarter funded as thousands of people die.

The war in Ukraine has abruptly drawn millions of dollars away from other crises. Somalia, facing a food shortage largely driven by the war, might be the most vulnerable. Its aid funding is less than half of last year’s level while overwhelmingly Western donors have sent more than \$1.7 billion to respond to the war in Europe. Yemen, Syria, Iraq, South Sudan, Congo and the Palestinian territories are similarly affected.

The \$2.2 billion appeal for Ukraine is almost 80% funded, according to United Nations data, an “except-



A woman and her children, aided by a local resident, reach a makeshift camp for the displaced June 30 near Mogadishu, Somalia. FARAH ABDI WARSAMEH/AP

tional” level for any crisis at the midway point of the year, said Angus Urquhart, humanitarius and crisis lead for the Development Initiatives consultancy. The smaller appeal for Somalia is just 30% funded.

This year’s global shift in money and attention is perhaps most urgently felt in the Horn of Africa, including Ethiopia and Kenya, where some areas could be declared in famine within weeks. The United States Agency for International Development says regional authorities haven’t seen anything on this scale in well over 100 years. Millions of head of livestock, families’ source of wealth and nutrition, have died.

People are next. To the shock of some exhausted Somalis who walk for days through

parched landscapes to places like Mogadishu in search of aid, there is often little or none.

Hawa Osman Bilal sat outside her makeshift tent holding the clothes of her daughter Ifrah, who like many vulnerable Somalis died after the difficult journey to seek help.

“She was skinny and emaciated, and she died in front of me,” Bilal said. The girl was buried nearby, one in a growing number of tiny graves.

The crowded camp’s caretaker, Fadumo Abdulkadir Warsame, told the AP that about 100 families had arrived in the past week alone, swelling the population to 1,700 families. There is no food to give them. “The only thing we can afford for them is bread and black tea,” he said. “There is no aid

from the donors yet.”

At a nearby storeroom run by the local organization Peace and Development Action, supported by the U.N. World Food Program, the stock has shriveled.

“The world has turned its back on Somalia to focus on Ukraine,” manager Shafici Ali Ahmed said.

The White House acknowledged the problem in a June 28 statement on global food security, saying that “while the entire globe will continue to be affected by Russia’s actions, the most immediate needs will present in the Horn of Africa,” where Somalia once sourced 90% of its wheat from Russia and Ukraine but now struggles to find supplies amid soaring prices.

“We’re really trying to stave off mass deaths at this point,” Sarah Charles,

assistant to the administrator for USAID’s Bureau for Humanitarian Assistance, told the AP, adding that “unfortunately, the nature of these crises is such that they go slow and then go very fast.”

Nimo Hassan, director of the Somalia NGO Consortium, and several others said they believe donor countries’ representatives on the ground understand the urgency, but decision-makers in capitals such as Brussels and London appear distracted by the war in Europe.

Less than 30% of the new arrivals fleeing drought in Somalia were receiving immediate food or other assistance at camps as of April, the U.N. humanitarian agency has said.

“Not all emergencies are born equal,” said Victor

Aguayo, the UNICEF director of nutrition and child development, speaking from the Somali region of Ethiopia, where he reported a “very significant increase” in the number of children under 2 with severe wasting.

“Some emergencies all of a sudden grab the attention,” Aguayo said, adding that UNICEF is not receiving enough money to contain the Horn of Africa crisis as 1.8 million children need urgent treatment.

The World Food Program, like UNICEF, must shift limited resources from preventing acute hunger to focusing on the desperately hungry. That means more than a quarter-million children under 2 in Somalia have lost prevention help “at the peak of famine prevention efforts,” WFP spokesman Altan Butt said.

NEWS BRIEFING

US pharmacies given OK to dispense pills to help fight COVID-19

From news services

WASHINGTON — Pharmacists can prescribe the leading COVID-19 pill directly to patients under a new U.S. policy announced Wednesday that’s intended to expand use of Pfizer’s drug Paxlovid.

The Food and Drug Administration said pharmacists can begin screening patients to see if they are eligible for Paxlovid and then prescribe the medication, which has been shown to curb the worst effects of COVID-19. Previously only physicians could prescribe the antiviral drug.

The announcement comes as COVID-19 cases, hospitalizations and deaths are rising again, though they remain near their lowest levels since the outbreak began in 2020.

Biden administration officials have been working for months to increase access to Paxlovid, opening thousands of sites where patients who test positive can fill a prescription for Paxlovid. The FDA change will make thousands more pharmacies eligible to quickly prescribe and dispense the pill, which must be used early to be effective.

“Since Paxlovid must be taken within five days after symptoms begin, authorizing state-licensed pharmacists to prescribe Paxlovid could expand access to timely treatment,” FDA drug center director Patricia Cavazzoni, said in a statement.

Still, use could be limited by paperwork requirements. Patients are expected to bring their recent health records—including blood tests — and a list of their current medications so

pharmacists can check for health conditions and medications that can negatively interact with Paxlovid.

Pharmacists can also consult with the patient’s doctor.

Paxlovid is intended for people with COVID-19 who are more likely to become seriously ill. That includes older people and those with other health issues that make them more vulnerable. It isn’t recommended for patients with severe kidney or liver problems.

Nipsey Hussle trial: A man who grew up on the same streets in the same gang as Nipsey Hussle was found guilty Wednesday of first-degree murder in the 2019 shooting of the Grammy-winning rapper.

The Los Angeles County jury also found Eric R. Holder Jr., 32, guilty of two counts of attempted voluntary manslaughter for gunfire that hit other men at the scene. Holder also was found guilty of two counts of assault with a firearm on the same men.

His lawyer conceded during the trial that Holder shot Hussle, 33, whose legal name is Ermias Asghedom, but had sought a lesser verdict of voluntary manslaughter.

A jury of nine women and three men deliberated for about six hours over two days before reaching the verdict.

Holder is scheduled to be sentenced Sept. 15.

Nigeria jailbreak: Nearly 900 inmates escaped in a jailbreak in Abuja, Nigeria’s capital city, officials said Wednesday, blaming the attack on Islamic extremist rebels.

At least 443 of the 879 escapees are still missing, Umar Abubakar, a spokesman for the Nigerian Correctional Service said, while hundreds of others have either been recaptured or turned themselves in at police stations.

The “very determined” rebels attacked the Kuje maximum prison in Abuja on Tuesday night with “very high-grade explosives,” killing one guard on duty, according to Shuaib Belgore, permanent secretary of Nigeria’s Ministry of Interior.

The Islamic extremist rebels who attacked the prison have waged an insurgency in the country’s northeast for over a decade.

Border mission probe: The U.S. Department of Justice is investigating potential civil rights violations in Texas’ multibillion-dollar border security mission that has given the National Guard arrest powers and seen state authorities bus migrants to Washington, D.C., according to public records.

A lawyer for the state police agency acknowledged the federal probe of Gov. Greg Abbott’s initiative to curb people crossing from Mexico in a May email, according to records. The state prison system also cited a “formal investigation” in a letter seeking to withhold public records related to Operation Lone Star.

Last year, Abbott, a Republican seeking reelection, rolled out the massive law enforcement apparatus, alleging inaction by President Joe Biden’s administration. The surge in officers has driven arrests—including

for minor crimes that appear to have little to do with border security. Some of those detained have spent weeks in state jails.

The emails from Texas Department of Public Safety officials indicate federal authorities are looking at whether the operation may have broken a law against discrimination by organizations receiving federal funds.

Trump appraiser: A company that has performed appraisals on some of Donald Trump’s most prized properties has been held in contempt of court for missing a deadline to turn over documents in the New York attorney general’s civil investigation into the former president’s business practices.

Manhattan Judge Arthur Engoron said late Tues-

day Cushman & Wakefield had shown a “willful failure” to comply with Attorney General Letitia James’ subpoenas, which sought records on several Trump properties.

Engoron fined Cushman & Wakefield \$10,000 per day, beginning Thursday, for each day it fails to fully comply with James’ subpoenas.

The real estate services company said in 2021 it would no longer do business with the Trump Organization.

Syria aid: Russia has agreed to continue humanitarian aid deliveries from Turkey to rebel-held northwest Syria for six months — not a year, as many U.N. Security Council members, Secretary-General Antonio Guterres and more than 30 nongovernmental organiza-

tions are seeking.

Russia proposed amendments to a draft resolution by Ireland and Norway reducing the time frame for deliveries. It also calls for increased efforts to ensure “full, safe and unhindered” deliveries of aid across conflict lines within Syria, according to the Russian draft obtained Wednesday.

In early July 2020, China and Russia vetoed a U.N. resolution that would have maintained two border crossing points from Turkey to deliver humanitarian aid to Idlib. Days later, the council authorized the delivery of aid through one of those crossings. That one-year mandate was extended for a year last July 9.

The U.N. Security Council is scheduled to vote Thursday on a resolution to continue cross-border deliveries.



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BUSINESS

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Biden spotlights action to rescue union pensions

Rule linked to COVID-19 relief package will ensure full benefits for millions

By Aamer Madhani and Josh Boak
Associated Press

CLEVELAND — Reassuring frustrated blue-collar voters, President Joe Biden on Wednesday visited Ohio ironworkers to highlight federal action to shore up troubled pension funding for millions now on the job or retired — and to make his political case that he’s been a champion of workers in the early going of his presidency.

Biden’s speech at a Cleveland high school showcased a final rule tied to his \$1.9 trillion coronavirus relief package from last year. The rule allows troubled multicomp-pany pensions to be made financially whole, ensuring full benefits for 2 million to 3 million workers and retirees.

Hurt politically by inflation at a 40-year high and damage wrought by the pandemic, the president delivered his message in a state that has been trending Republican, with Donald Trump easily carrying it twice. In his sixth visit as president, Biden looked to personally reverse that electoral tide, touting the rule to help multicom-

pany pensions as one of the most significant efforts to support union workers’ retirement funds in the past 50 years.

The roughly 200 pension plans receiving assistance faced possible insolvency without government aid. And without the full benefits, workers and retirees could struggle to pay for housing, food and other essentials. The financial support should help keep the pension funds solvent for roughly 30 years until 2051.

That’s important, several retirees said.

Bill DeVito, who introduced Biden, was an ironworker for almost 50 years before retiring a decade ago. When his pension was cut 40% in 2017, he said, “it was devastating.”

“The thing of it is, we had a lot of politicians over the years saying, ‘hey, we’ll try to help you, we’ll do everything we can,’ and nobody’s ever done anything for us until Joe Biden come along,” said DeVito, 73. He said that other Ohio Democrats in Washington kept pushing, too.

Multiemployer plans are created through agreements between compa-

nies and a union, and are insured by the federal Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation (PBGC). In 2014, Congress passed the Multiemployer Pension Reform Act that allowed plans, for the first time, to cut workers and retirees’ benefits in order to ensure that pensions projected to run out of money remained solvent.

The American Rescue Plan passed in March 2021 included a special finance assistance program that allows struggling multiemployer pension plans to apply to the PBGC for assistance. The final rule being unveiled is designed to make it easier for the pensions’ investments to receive a higher rate of return.

While Biden boasts of steady job growth — unemployment sits at 3.6% — Americans have largely been discontented with the Democratic president’s handling of the economy as inflation continues to rise, interest rates increase and the stock market wobbles. Just 28 percent approve of Biden’s stewardship of the economy, according to an AP-NORC Center for Public Affairs Research poll published last week.

Apple plans ‘lockdown’ option on its devices

Associated Press

CUPERTINO, Calif. — Apple said it will roll out a “lockdown” option for iPhones, iPads and Mac computers intended to protect against spyware unleashed by state-sponsored hackers — although enabling that protection will also make these devices less useful.

The safeguard announced Wednesday is a tacit acknowledgment that not even Apple — the world’s most valuable company — has been able to adequately shield the iPhone and its other products against intrusions from state-backed hackers and commercial spyware. Governments have used these tools to violate the privacy of journalists, political dissidents and human rights activists.

The new feature, called “lockdown mode,” will initially be offered as a test version so that security researchers can help Apple identify any bugs or weaknesses.

While only a handful of countries appear to have the resources to develop in-house mobile phone hacking tools, private companies like Israel’s NSO Group have been selling phone hacking software to government agencies around the world for years.

The growing hacker-for-hire problem prompted Apple to file a federal lawsuit last year against NSO Group for breaking into iPhones and other Apple products.

In its complaint, Apple accused NSO Group employees of being “amoral 21st century mercenaries who have created highly sophisticated cyber-surveillance machinery that invites routine and flagrant abuse.”

NSO, which has been blacklisted by the U.S. Commerce Department, has denied any wrongdoing.

Activating the lockdown measure will disable features such as sending attachments and links in texts and receiving FaceTime calls from new numbers.

BUSINESS BRIEFING

France planning takeover of EDF

PARIS — France’s government plans to nationalize indebted French electricity giant EDF amid a broad energy crisis aggravated by Russia’s invasion of Ukraine, Prime Minister Elisabeth Borne said Wednesday.

The French state holds an 84% stake in the company, one of the world’s biggest electricity producers.

EDF manages France’s fleet of nuclear reactors, which are facing many technical and other problems. New-generation reactors are years behind schedule and billions over budget.

EDF had \$86 billion in revenue last year and \$5.2 billion in profits, and serves tens of millions of customers in France and other countries. It was partially privatized in the early 2000s.

US job openings stay high in May

WASHINGTON — U.S. employers advertised fewer jobs in May amid signs that the economy is weakening, though the overall demand for workers remained strong.

Employers posted 11.3 million job openings at the end of May, the Labor Department said Wednesday, down from nearly 11.7 million in April. Job openings reached 11.9 million in March, the highest level in records dating back more than 20 years.

There are nearly two job openings for every unemployed person, a sharp reversal from the historic pattern of more unemployed people than available jobs.

Last month, the government said that employers added 390,000 jobs in May, a healthy increase, while the unemployment rate stayed at 3.6%, near a 50-year low.



Protesters gather outside the Supreme Court on June 24 after the federal right to an abortion was overturned. JACQUELYN MARTIN/AP

Ruling catches firms off guard

Companies pledging to pay workers’ abortion-travel costs face legal, insurance hurdles

By Barbara Ortutay and Dee-Ann Durbin
Associated Press

After the U.S. Supreme Court revoked the federal right to an abortion that’s been in place for half a century, companies such as Amazon, Disney, Apple and J.P. Morgan pledged to cover travel costs for employees who live in states where the procedure is now illegal.

But the companies gave scant or no details on how they will do this and it’s not clear if they will be able to — legally — while protecting employees’ privacy and keeping them safe from prosecution.

“Most employers were not prepared for Roe to be overturned, and even those that were didn’t realize the law would literally be changed the next minute,” said Brian Kropp, a vice president at the consulting firm Gartner. “They’re trying to play catch-up.”

Kropp said many companies announced plans to offer travel benefits without the infrastructure in place to make them work. Some, he added, are creating supplement-

ary policies that employees can buy to cover abortion travel, while others are contacting insurers to see if travel can be added to their current plans. Others are trying to figure out how to offer a benefit without breaching employees’ privacy.

“Are employees going to have to tell their manager they are going to have to travel from Texas to California to have an abortion?” Kropp said.

The answer is no — but they would likely have to tell human resources or a similar department that they are pregnant and want to get an abortion, said Sharona Hoffman, a health law professor at Case Western Reserve University. The company or its health insurer would then provide money upfront or a reimbursement after the fact.

Hoffman called such pledges a “generous benefit” from companies, and said she would not be surprised “if this becomes a practice that more companies undertake — just without trumpeting it,” for fear of the backlash that can come with public statements on a divisive issue such as abortion.

“It’s not necessarily altruistic,” she said. “It also makes some sense for companies to not have a bunch of employees that are highly distressed because they have unwanted pregnancies and have to carry the child to term.”

For now, most big companies offering

an abortion-travel benefit will likely add it to existing health care plans, said Jonathan Zimmerman, a partner with the law firm Morgan Lewis who helps companies develop and maintain their benefits.

Big companies are generally self-insured, which means they pay for all claims and have more flexibility to decide what the plans will cover. A third party processes the claims on their behalf.

That’s the case at outdoor clothing company Patagonia, which updated its health coverage last fall to add travel costs for employees after Texas’ law banning most abortions went into effect. Patagonia said abortion and travel costs are administered in the same manner as other medical services, ensuring confidentiality for employees.

Microsoft, meanwhile, noted that it already covers abortion for its employees and has now extended the coverage to include travel expenses for “these and other lawful medical services” if they are not available in an employee’s home state.

Smaller companies may have fewer options. They typically buy health insurance for their employees from insurers that are subject to state regulations. Those companies have less flexibility to design benefits, and they may operate in states that ban abortion.

EU backs gas, nuclear power as sustainable

By Samuel Petrequin and Raf Casert
Associated Press

BRUSSELS — European Union lawmakers voted Wednesday to include nuclear gas and nuclear power in the bloc’s list of sustainable activities, backing a proposal from the EU’s executive arm that has been drawing fierce criticism from environment groups and now looks set to trigger legal challenges.

As the EU wants to set the best global standards in combating climate change, the decision could tarnish the bloc’s image and sow doubts on the region’s commitment to reaching climate neutrality by 2050.

The European Commission earlier this year made the proposal as part of its plans

for building a climate-friendly future, dividing member countries and drawing outcry from environmentalists over what they criticize as “greenwashing.”

EU legislators from the environment and economy committees objected last month to the plan, setting up Wednesday’s decisive vote in Strasbourg, France. But members of the European Parliament rejected their resolution in a 328-278 vote, with 33 lawmakers abstaining. The result was announced to a salvo of applause.

An absolute majority of 353 was needed to veto the proposal. If the European Parliament and member countries don’t object to it by Monday, the so-called Taxonomy Delegated Act will enter into force and apply as of next year.

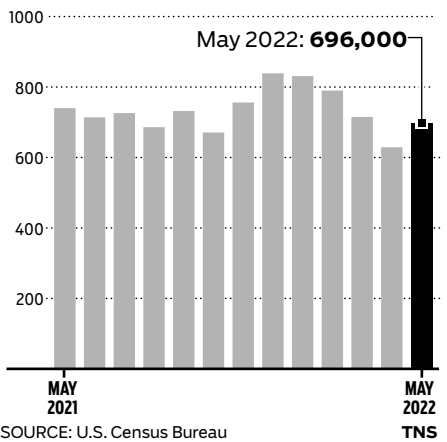
Greenpeace immediately said it will submit a formal request for internal review to the European Commission, and then take legal action at the European Court of Justice if the result isn’t conclusive.

“It’s dirty politics and it’s an outrageous outcome to label gas and nuclear as green and keep more money flowing to (Russian President Vladimir) Putin’s war chest, but now we will fight this in the courts,” said Ariadna Rodrigo, Greenpeace’s EU sustainable finance campaigner.

The green-labeling system from the European Commission defines what qualifies as an investment in sustainable energy. Under certain conditions, gas and nuclear energy will be in the mix, making it easier for investors to inject money into both.

New residential sales

New houses sold, seasonally adjusted, scale in thousands



BUSINESS



A cook works last month at the Ravi restaurant in Dubai, United Arab Emirates. The low-key, wildly popular eatery just launched a brand collaboration with Adidas. KAMRAN JEBREILI/AP

Humble Pakistani restaurant stands out amid Dubai’s glitz

By Malak Harb
Associated Press

DUBAI, United Arab Emirates — In a city boasting champagne brunches with views of the sea, Michelin star restaurants and endless high-end Asian food options, a small hole-in-the-wall restaurant with plastic chairs and metal tables is one of Dubai’s go-to spots.

The Ravi restaurant, a small, family-owned Pakistani place, is rooted in the community of South Asian workers who helped build Dubai. Yet over the decades, it has become a staple of the food culture in a city that gravitates to everything glitzy and over the top.

The restaurant opened its doors in the United Arab Emirates in 1978 in the Dubai neighborhood of Satwa, at a time when it was a sandy area full of big trucks and small construction shops. The emirate was mostly a desert land in the 1970s with a meager, low-built skyline overlooking the Gulf.

Ravi served homestyle dishes, mainly to South Asian construction workers. Its founder, Chaudary

Abdul Hameed, wanted to “find a way to serve better food to the working class,” said his son Waseem Abdul Hameed, also the restaurant’s operations manager. That meant keeping prices affordable, with meals costing an average of \$7.

Over the years, as Dubai boomed, it became a hit among Emiratis and the Western and Asian expatriates in the emirate.

Famed food critic Anthony Bourdain helped put Ravi on the map when he visited it for one of his TV series in 2010. A few years later, rapper Snoop Dogg dropped in, and Ravi was elevated to a must-see attraction.

Besides its portions, prices and flavors, it’s ironically Ravi’s lack of pretentiousness that gives it cache.

Customers wearing everything from business suits to traditional saris or sneakers crowd the restaurant for big meals or late-night snacks. It’s common to see lines at the door, or people taking their food and eating it at the curb.

Inside, customers sit at tables with plastic covers underneath flickering neon lights. Chatter drowns out

the sound of ceiling fans. Chicken biryani, chicken tikka, daal and naan are slung out of the kitchen over the service counter, and as waiters rush the plates to the table, the smell of curry and grilled meat wafts through the air.

Last month, the low-key eatery was scene to a very Dubai-style splash: a gathering of social media influencers to promote the launch of shoemaker Adidas’ brand collaboration with Ravi.

Adidas produced a specially designed, limited-edition Superstar Ravi sneaker — green and white, emblazoned with the restaurant’s name and the year it opened, and a list of the six most famous dishes from its menu on the inside of the shoe’s tongue.

Ravi and Adidas declined to disclose terms of the deal, or to answer questions about whether the restaurant will make money from the shoes.

Waseem Abdul Hameed said it reflects how the restaurant is part of Dubai’s cultural fabric. “You have to go to Ravi restaurant for a meal, so that’s why they chose us,” he said.

Midwest aquaculture farms struggle to market their fish

By Casey Smith
Associated Press

INDIANAPOLIS — When drastic increases in food costs spurred by the COVID-19 pandemic left Andrew Caplinger’s Fresh Catch Seafood struggling to find fresh catfish for his restaurants, he decided to try “an experimental” solution — growing his own.

In the coming months, the Indianapolis restaurant chain Caplinger’s Fresh Catch Seafood will begin sourcing its second most popular menu item from fish ponds at his 28-acre farm in southern Indiana.

The goal is to produce up to half of the 800 to 1,000 pounds of catfish fillets served at the restaurants each week.

“I’ve never done anything like this — I’ve sold dead fish my whole entire life,” he said. “It’s tough, and it might be risky. But assuming things go well and these fish grow like they should, we won’t have to look at raising our store prices again for some time.”

It’s a move that could increase local appetite for fish, Caplinger said. But even with fish and seafood consumption on the rise, the number of Midwest aquaculture farms is declining, and many fish producers say they face challenges getting their produce to consumers in the region.

Midwestern states compose a fifth of the country’s land but contain about a third of all U.S. farms, according to the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

Although experts maintain the region could be a strong producer, the number of aquaculture farms in the Midwest has fallen to roughly 271 from 336 a decade ago.

This could be because the region has historically relied on wild-caught seafood, said Amy Shambach, an aquaculture marketing outreach associate with the



Mike Searcy, who owns a trout farm in Seymour, Indiana, says a lack of processing capacity that gets fish from farmer to consumer stifles local aquaculture. MICHAEL CONROY/AP

Illinois-Indiana Sea Grant. Seafood produced in the Midwest also must compete with cheaper, imported seafood.

“Our input costs are a little bit higher than other places, and (that) contributes to some of the slow growth,” Shambach said.

Stagnant fish farming in the Midwest aquaculture industry has national implications, Shambach said. With global seafood consumption expected to see an increase of 100 billion to 170 billion pounds by 2030, the growing seafood trade deficit means more fish will need to be farm-raised, opening the door for Midwestern farmers to meet demand.

Joseph Morris, former director of the North Central Regional Aquaculture Center at Iowa State University, said growing the industry is a challenge, noting problems with marketing, fish processing and high labor costs.

“The big hurdle to tackle — how can they produce a product, economically, to meet the consumer needs and still stay in business?” he said. “How do you reach the growing market of people wanting to eat fish?”

Mike Searcy, who owns a trout farm in Seymour, Indiana, said the Hoosier state — one of only two in the Midwest to report an uptick




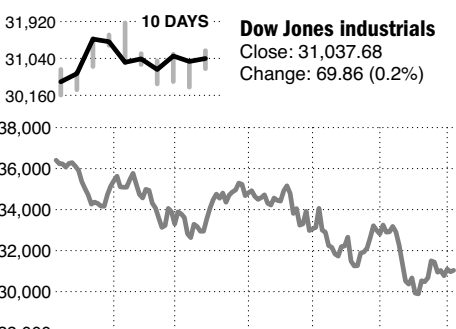
in farms in the last decade — lacks a central processing facility for gutting and filleting harvested fish. He sends most of his fish to Kentucky for processing and distribution.

“We have demand from our local customers, but the biggest hindrance is the lack of processing, filling that gap between the farmer and the restaurant owner. That holds us back,” said Searcy, who is exploring having a processing facility. “When we’re competing with foreign markets and much cheaper labor, they can supply a fillet to the grocery stores a heck of a lot cheaper than what I can.”

Shambach said the lack of processing available in Indiana allows only a handful of Indiana aquaculture farms to produce for food businesses. Instead, most fish raised in the state is sold live to Asian food markets in Indianapolis, Chicago, New York City and Toronto.

Still, Morris said, fish farmers are vying to grow their businesses and increase profits — which could succeed if producers can better market their fish.

“A new generation of folks are eating more fish, and they’re asking more often, ‘Where’s my food coming from?’ That’s where the Midwest comes in,” Morris said.

MARKET RUNDOWN			
Thursday, July 7, 2022			
 DOW 31,037.68 +69.86	 10-YR T-BOND 2.91% +10	 GOLD \$1,734.90 -26.90	
			
Domestic Indexes			
	CLOSE	CHG.	YTD
DOW Indus.	31,037.68	+69.86	-14.59%
DOW Trans.	13,210.01	-6.61	-19.83%
DOW Util.	967.94	+9.73	-1.31%
NYSE Comp.	14,465.29	-34.20	-15.72%
Nasdaq Comp.	11,361.85	+39.61	-27.38%
S&P 500	3,845.08	+13.69	-19.33%
S&P 400	2,279.12	-13.85	-19.81%
Wilshire 5000	38,220.59	+52.86	-21.13%
Russell 2000	1,727.55	-13.78	-23.06%
Commodities			
	CLOSE	PREV.	YTD
FUELS			
Crude Oil (bbl)	98.53	99.50	+31.01%
Natural Gas (mm btu)	5.51	5.52	+47.72%
Unleaded Gas (gal)	3.24	3.33	+45.25%
METALS			
Gold (oz)	1,734.90	1,761.80	-5.07%
Silver (oz)	19.09	19.05	-18.19%
(Previous and change figures reflect current contract.)			
Foreign Exchange			
	ForEx in U.S. \$	U.S. \$ in ForEx	
Britain	1.1924	.8386	
Canada	.7667	1.3042	
China	.1491	6.7080	
Euro	1.0183	.9821	
Japan	.007354	135.98	
Mexico	.048328	20.6919	
Money Rates			
		CLOSE	PREV. WK.
Prime rate		4.75	4.75
3-mo. T-Bill		1.88	1.76
6-mo. T-Bill		2.60	2.55
5-yr T-Note		2.96	3.15
10-yr T-Note		3.91	3.09
30-yr T-Bond		3.12	3.21
Global Markets			
	CLOSE	CHG.	%CHG. %YTD
Frankfurt	12,594.52	+193.32	+1.56% -20.71%
London	7,107.77	+82.30	+1.17% -3.75%
Hong Kong	21,586.66	-266.41	-1.22% -7.74%
Nikkei	26,107.65	-315.82	-1.20% -9.32%

Stocks of Local Interest				
STOCK (TICKER)	CLOSE	CHG.	YTD %CHG	
AMC Entertainment A (AMC)	12.57	-.21	-53.8	
AT&T Inc (T)	21.09	-.08	-14.3	
Adv Micro Dev (AMD)	75.35	+15	-47.6	
Amazon.com Inc (AMZN)	114.33	+.83	-31.4	
American Airlines Gp (AAL)	13.89	+.01	-22.7	
Amphenol Corp (APH)	64.46	+.51	-26.3	
Apple Inc (AAPL)	142.92	+1.36	-19.5	
Avangrid Inc (AGR)	46.35	+.70	-7.1	
Bank of America (BAC)	30.98	-.26	-30.4	
Barnes Group (B)	30.54	-.58	-34.4	
Booking Holdings (BKNG)	1750.86	-37.10	-27.0	
Brist Myr Sqb (BMY)	76.22	+.26	+22.2	
CVS Health Corp (CVS)	93.19	+.66	-9.7	
Carnival Corp (CCL)	8.74	-.64	-56.6	
Carrier Global Corp (CARR)	36.18	+.11	-33.3	
Charter Commun (CHTR)	471.64	-9.58	-27.7	
Cigna Corp (CI)	271.09	+6.25	+18.1	
Comcast Corp A (CMCSA)	39.83	...	-20.9	
Disney (DIS)	96.08	-1.10	-38.0	
EMCOR Group Inc (EME)	101.88	-1.17	-20.0	
Endo Intl plc (ENDP)	.54	+.02	-85.5	
Energy Transfer L.P. (ET)	9.54	-.34	+15.9	
Enjoy Technology Inc (ENJY)	.42	+.11	-90.9	
Eos Energy Enterpris (EOSE)	1.43	+.17	-81.0	
Ethan Allen (ETD)	20.57	-.53	-21.8	
Eversource Energy (ES)	84.15	+.78	-7.5	
Biofem Biosciences (EVFM)	1.33	+.23	-76.4	
Exela Technologies (XELA)	.11	-.01	-87.9	
Exxon Mobil Corp (XOM)	83.28	-1.53	+36.1	
Ford Motor (F)	11.06	-.14	-46.8	
Freepor McMoran (FCX)	27.38	-.12	-34.4	
FuelCell Energy (FCEL)	3.98	+.14	-23.5	
Gen Dynamics (GD)	219.56	+5.03	+5.3	
Gen Electric (GE)	61.57	-.46	-34.8	
Ginkgo Bioworks Hldg (DNA)	2.99	+.29	-64.0	
Grab Holdings Ltd A (GRAB)	2.52	-.19	-64.7	
Hartford Fn Sv (HIG)	65.39	+.37	-5.3	
Hexo Corp (HEXO)	.21	+.01	-69.5	
Honeywell Intl (HON)	173.21	+1.12	-16.9	
Horizon Tech Fin (HRZN)	11.85	+.04	-25.6	
Infosys Ltd (INFY)	18.93	+.26	-25.2	
Inspira Tech Oxy BHN (IINN)	2.19	+.95	-47.4	
Intel Corp (INTC)	36.99	+.30	-28.2	
Kaman (KAMN)	29.82	-.39	-30.9	
Keycorp (KEY)	17.25	-.13	-25.4	
STOCK (TICKER)	CLOSE	CHG.	YTD %CHG	
Lincoln Natl Corp (LNC)	46.78	-.19	-31.5	
M&T Bank (MTB)	157.06	-1.57	+2.3	
MGM Resorts Intl (MGM)	29.54	-.82	-34.2	
MetLife Inc (MET)	61.93	-.41	-.9	
Norwegian Cruise Ln (NCLH)	11.27	-1.19	-45.7	
Novartis AG (NVS)	83.73	-.55	-4.3	
Nvidia Corporation (NVDA)	151.30	+1.66	-48.6	
Occid Petl (OXY)	59.11	...	+103.9	
Otis Worldwide Corp (OTIS)	71.26	-.11	-18.2	
Palantir Technol (PLTR)	9.80	-.27	-46.2	
Pfizer Inc (PFE)	52.75	+1.11	-10.7	
Pitney Bowes (PBI)	3.51	-.17	-47.1	
Prudential FncI (PRU)	94.82	-.51	-12.4	
Pub Svc Ent Gp (PEG)	62.98	+.42	-5.6	
Raytheon Technolog (RTX)	93.92	+1.00	+9.1	
Revelation Biosci (REVB)	1.20	+.37	-88.2	
Rivian Automotive A (RIVN)	29.66	+2.80	-71.4	
Rogers Corp (ROG)	263.00	+1.71	-3.7	
Roblox Corp (RBLX)	37.95	-2.04	-63.2	
SCWorx Corp (WORX)	.74	+.12	-42.6	
SS&C Technologies (SSNC)	58.89	-.35	-28.2	
Shopify Inc (SHOP)	33.04	+.06	...	
SoFi Technologies (SOFI)	5.90	-.96	-62.7	
Sthwstn Energy (SWN)	5.86	-.06	+25.8	
Stanley Black & Deck (SWK)	110.91	+.54	-41.2	
Starwood Prop Trust (STWD)	21.10	-.28	-13.2	
Sundial Growers Inc (SNDL)	.35	+.01	-40.0	
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OPINION

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Fuzzy language sets back fight against COVID-19

By Faye Flam
Bloomberg Opinion

People no longer know what to do about the COVID-19 pandemic. Part of the problem is the language we use to talk about it.

Words such as “breakthrough,” “booster” and even “sick” mean different things to different people — and to experts and the general public. The solution is for experts to be mindful of words with various popular meanings, and to avoid others.

Public health officials who wonder why the public is ignoring them — or who blame scientific illiteracy for their own muddy communication — should consider a new glossary.

The language problem hit me when Paul Offit, director of the Vaccine Education Center at the Children’s Hospital of Philadelphia, said in a video talk that he wished experts had never used the term “breakthrough infection.” This descriptor makes it sound as if the COVID vaccines failed. But in other diseases, asymptomatic or mild infections often coexist with vaccination.

Offit also suggested jettisoning “booster” and redefining fully vaccinated simply as two, three or four shots, depending on

various risk factors and age. That might encourage people to get the additional shots they need. Last winter, the critical care physician Roger Seheult told me that most patients he was seeing in the ICU during the omicron surge had serious health conditions but had not gotten that third dose of vaccine. Thirty percent of Americans over 65 never got a booster, though they are vastly more likely to be hospitalized or die from COVID-19 than younger people.

Even basic terms can highlight a disconnect. Take the word “sick.” “A recent CDC announcement regarding international travel advised travelers to ‘get tested for current infection ... and not travel if they are sick,’” notes risk communication consultant Peter Sandman. But does “sick” mean having symptoms or just testing positive? When scientists estimate that a quarter or even half of Americans have been infected with omicron, do they mean tested positive or got symptoms? Does this include people who didn’t test but would have been positive if they had?

“Airborne” is another term Sandman considers confusing. Most people think of airborne as any transmission via air, in contrast with transmission via infected

surfaces. But the World Health Organization and the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention differentiate between airborne and droplets, which also travel through the air but are larger and less likely to travel more than six feet. The distinction is critical. With a droplet-borne disease, even cloth masks are likely to help, and staying 6 feet apart keeps people safer. If a virus is technically airborne, then being outside, having good ventilation and wearing respirator masks make more sense.

Even “mask” has lost meaning. Masks encompass everything from a bandana tied bank robber-style around the face to an N95. The former hasn’t been shown to protect the wearer or others, while the latter does both. So when we talk about “wearing masks” or say “masking works,” people have wildly varying interpretations.

“Long COVID” also encompasses too much, lumping together any lingering symptoms with a disabling neurological syndrome. This makes it hard to judge the risk of severe long COVID. To understand the difference, think about skin cancer. There are many kinds of skin cancer, and the common ones are the least deadly. There’s a good reason most of us who’ve had something zapped off our skin don’t

consider ourselves cancer survivors. “Emergency” also highlights the growing gulf between the public and public health, since most people no longer see the pandemic as an emergency. “To qualify as an emergency, an event normally should be important, bad, sudden and short-term,” Sandman wrote to me.

Finally, “pandemic,” when contrasted with “endemic,” has unleashed a new wave of confusion. People think of a pandemic as something very serious and scary, and endemic as a problem that fades into the background. Oxford University biologist Aris Katzourakis has called “endemic” one of the most misused terms of the pandemic because many endemic diseases, such as malaria, can be extremely deadly and debilitating.

To most of us, however, the idea of a permanent pandemic or a permanent emergency feel oxymoronic. When people say they think the pandemic is over, they’re describing the way things feel now. That might be subjective, but it’s no less real — and public health professionals would be wise to pay attention.

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An error the Jan. 6 panel must avoid



Jonah Goldberg

Will the Jan. 6 committee issue a “criminal referral” to the Justice Department for Donald Trump? Committee members can’t give an interview without being asked that question.

Pundits can’t stop talking about it, cable TV anchors can’t stop asking legal experts for their predictions. It’s nothing less than a media obsession.

Trouble is, it’s a silly question. Don’t get me wrong. Whether or not Trump committed crimes — and what to do about it if he did — is profoundly serious stuff. And so is the committee’s investigation. But rarely has so much passion and studied seriousness been devoted to the trivial issue of a congressional criminal referral.

You know what that is? A letter saying, in effect, “Please look into this.” If it comes from the committee chair, the Department of Justice traditionally responds in writing or by phone. That response usually amounts to “Thanks, we’ll look into it. Maybe.”

If it comes from an ordinary member of Congress, the DOJ might not even do that much. Why? Because it’s a classic congressional P.R. stunt. A former DOJ official tells me you could probably wallpaper the Hoover building with Republican criminal referrals for Hillary Clinton alone.

You know who else can make a criminal referral? You! Just go the FBI website or call the local office.

Apparently, there is only one U.S. statute that gives any special treatment to congressional criminal referrals — 2 U.S.C. § 194. This lays out the guidelines for contempt of Congress. But there’s no special law covering anything else. As former federal prosecutor Andrew McCarthy writes, “it makes no material difference to the DOJ whether a committee transmits a formal referral (‘we believe Andy robbed the bank’) or instead issues a public report describing its conclusions (‘An Investigation into the Awful Things Andy Did at the Bank’). It is just the communication of an accusation.”

As a political matter, a criminal referral about a former president is a big deal, particularly given the specific crimes Trump could be charged with.

But a criminal referral from the commit-



A video of former President Donald Trump is played as Cassidy Hutchinson, former aide to Trump White House chief of staff Mark Meadows, testifies on June 28 before the House select committee investigating the Jan. 6, 2021, attack on the U.S. Capitol. **SEAN THEW/EPA**

tee is at best unnecessary and at worst counterproductive. Attorney General Merrick Garland already said last month he’s watching the hearings closely. More importantly, he’s already investigating. Alleged Trump conspirator Jeffrey Clark, a former assistant attorney general, had his home raided by the FBI on June 22. In short, there’s nothing additional the DOJ would do — or not do — if it received a referral from Congress.

Right now, everyone benefits from this widespread ignorance. The implication that there is some special weight to a criminal referral makes this all seem like more of a criminal proceeding than it actually is. That justifies breathless “will they or won’t they? Stay tuned to find out!” media speculation and coverage. Obviously, it’s catnip for those who want Trump prosecuted.

But it also contributes to the martyr complex of Trump supporters who desper-

ately — and relentlessly — try to paint this inquiry as a Stalinist show trial, Salem witch hunt or some other kangaroo court. Stalin’s show trials involved manufactured evidence and confessions extracted from torture. The Jan. 6 committee struggles to get compliance with subpoenas.

But pretending a criminal referral is a big deal lends weight to the nonsense. If the committee was a criminal proceeding, it would be a grotesque violation of due process and a farce. It’s a poorly designed, but ultimately essential, fact-finding effort. And it’s pretty obvious who doesn’t want the facts to be found.

There’s ample blame to go around for the one-sided nature of the committee. But as much as I agree with the committee’s goals, there’s no disputing that it’s not giving the Trumpists anything like equal time. It’s nothing like a Stalinist show trial, as critics bleat and moan, but neither is it

an impartial inquiry of the sort required to determine criminal guilt — or even the sort required to launch a criminal investigation.

The DOJ follows its own procedure, guidelines and counsel for such investigation. In this case, perhaps more than any other, it should stay that way.

A simple report laying out the already compelling evidence would have the same legal effect as a criminal referral. But the political effect of a criminal referral could be hugely negative — because the misperception that the DOJ follows Congress’ orders could turn into the misperception that the only reason the department prosecuted at all was because of a one-sided, “partisan” committee made a criminal referral. That would be a political gift to Trump and a gigantic unforced error.

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The longest goodbye for Britain’s scandal-scarred prime minister

By Martin Ivens
Bloomberg Opinion

Boris Johnson is the condemned man who refuses to die. For seven months, hardly without a week’s intermission, he has blustered his way through a series of scandals and pratfalls that would have toppled most titans of post-war British politics. To the intense irritation of his foes and rivals, he refused to accept the political death sentence.

By tea time Tuesday, the almost simultaneous resignations of Chancellor of the Exchequer Rishi Sunak and Health Secretary Sajid Javid, however, looked like the end at last for the U.K.’s mercurial prime minister. A slew of junior ministers followed. At furious speed, No. 10 cobbled together untested replacements. The sound of barrels being scraped resounded around Westminster.

This time, his premiership seems fatally wounded. How long the demise takes will determine the possible outcome of the U.K.’s next election and the future of his party.

Sunak and Johnson were to make a joint statement on the economy next week. But the chancellor was frustrated by the air of permanent crisis hanging over government and contradictory policymaking: his resignation letter declared he had been prepared to compromise and accept collective responsibility for decisions he

didn’t agree with, but his differences with the prime minister were now too great to continue in office. In other words, the prime minister wants to buy off voters’ enraged by tax hikes and inflation while the chancellor has nightmares about the mounting deficit. Sunak’s fiscal orthodoxy could no longer be reconciled with Johnson’s free-spending ways.

Another sucker punch came from Javid, who told Johnson in his farewell missive that “you have lost my confidence too” and boldly questioned the prime minister’s integrity. Javid has resigned from this government before, after serving as a short-lived chancellor. This time he declared “that the public are ready to hear the truth.” In which case, he implied, they haven’t been hearing it from No. 10.

Yet Johnson’s political assassination has been as slow and incompetent as that of Rasputin: Disgruntled aristocrats tried arsenic, bullets from a revolver and drowning in a frozen river before they finally dispatched “the mad monk” who was the favorite of the czar. Johnson, too, somehow manages to keep his head up above water.

Police investigations and civil service inquiries into the “partygate” scandal at No. 10 tripped over each other and failed to finish the prime minister off earlier this year, even though he was fined for breaking his own lockdown rules. Even a recent parliamentary revolt didn’t topple him — although as many as 148 Conservative

MPs declared they had no confidence in his leadership. Had the rebels waited for the results of two catastrophic by-election defeats for the government a fortnight later, Johnson would most likely have been toast.

Remembering the Cabinet revolt that heralded the downfall of Margaret Thatcher — Britain’s toughest, most successful prime minister — Tory dissidents have recently been begging senior ministers in public and private to send Johnson packing. The Cabinet has the ultimate responsibility to call time on a leader who can’t lead. But the old adage that “he who wields the knife never wears the crown” — and the knowledge that many lightweight loyalists around Johnson are unlikely to see high office under another Tory prime minister — ensured that ranks remained unbroken. Until now.

Even so, it will be remembered among the rank and file that both departing ministers have American green cards in their pockets, which allow them to reside and work in the U.S. Sunak, a highly employable former Goldman Sachs executive with A-list global business contacts, unwisely suggested in his resignation letter that the Treasury might be his last ministerial post.

This challenge may have been led by well-heeled plutocrats, but how much dissembling can Johnson’s MPs, party and the country at large bear? The latest grubby sex scandal involving a whip, Chris

Pincher, whose job was to exert party discipline and personally promoted by the prime minister, has humiliated Cabinet colleagues who were expected to defend the prime minister’s falsehoods.

Johnson sent out minister after minister to back No. 10’s denial that he knew of Pincher’s predatory sexual conduct before giving him the job. On Sunday, a cabinet ally protested, “I am not aware that he was made aware of specific claims.” By Monday, according to another minister Johnson was unaware of “any serious specific allegation.” Yet it was soon revealed that Johnson had once joked “Pincher by name, pincher by nature” about his disgraced ally.

It looks awful to voters that even friends of the prime minister are now writing his political obituaries. I was at a gathering of people sympathetic to Johnson this week and it struck me how many remembered his ability from his Oxford days onward to acquire a large body of loyalists and fellow travelers while supported by a small tight core of intimates. That talent sustained him through many storms.

Today, the opportunistic Royalists are fading away or writing “Dear Boris” letters of resignation. The result is a cobbled Cabinet and a prime minister hanging on. Neither a good look for the government nor a sound bet for Britain’s Conservatives.

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Collector of Revenue, Mansfield, CT
6/26, 7/7, 7/27/2022 7215460

STATE OF DELAWARE FAMILY COURT NOTICE OF FAMILY COURT DEPENDENCY AND NEGLECT CUSTODY ACTION

ORDER OF NOTICE

To: John Harker, DOB 11/29/1993
From: Brineka Neal, Division of Family
Services

Minor Male, DOB 11/29/2011

A hearing has been selected at Family Court,
500 North King Street, Wilmington, Delaware,
on July 18, 2022, at 10:00 a.m.

If you do not appear at the hearing, the Court
may grant custody of your child(ren) to the
Division of Family Services without your
appearance.

IF YOU WISH TO BE REPRESENTED BY AN
ATTORNEY IN THIS MATTER BUT CANNOT
AFFORD ONE, YOU MAY BE ENTITLED TO
HAVE THE COURT APPOINT AN ATTORNEY
TO REPRESENT YOU FOR FREE. FOR MORE
INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT THE
CONFIDENTIAL CLERK AT FAMILY COURT,
(302) 255-0239.

Right to Counsel: Upon proof of inability to
pay for a lawyer, the court will make sure an
attorney is provided to you by the Chief Public
Defender. Request for an attorney should be
made immediately in person, by mail, or by
fax at the court office where your hearing is
to be held.
7/7/2022 7246611

Legal Notice Request for Letters of Interest CSO # 2402 – Task Order Environmental Soil and Groundwater Services and CSO Solicitation No. 2403 – Task Order Environmental Compliance Asbestos, Lead, Air Quality and Structure Demolition Compliance Services

The Connecticut Department of
Transportation is seeking to engage two (2)
consultant firms to provide environmental
soil and groundwater task order services and
one (1) consultant to provide environmental
compliance asbestos, lead, air quality and
structure demolition compliance services.
More detailed information regarding these
assignments can be found at: [https://
portal.ct.gov/DO/Consultant-Selection/Consultant-Selection-Information](https://portal.ct.gov/DO/Consultant-Selection/Consultant-Selection-Information).

Connecticut Department of Transportation
An Equal Opportunity/ Affirmative Action
Employer
7/7, 7/10/2022 7241526

CITY OF HARTFORD, CONNECTICUT
NOTICE TO TAXPAYERS

The first semi-annual install-
ment of taxes on the Grand List of October 1,
2021, were due and payable on July 1, 2022.
Failure to pay any tax due on July 1, 2022, by
August 1, 2022, will cause the tax to become
delinquent and subject to interest from the
due date, at the rate of 1 1/2 % per full or
partial month. Any delinquent tax is subject
to a minimum interest charge of two dollars
(\$2.00).

Since failure to receive a bill
does not invalidate the tax or, in the event of
delinquency, respective penalties, taxpayers
who did not receive a bill should request a
duplicate from the Division of Assessment
and Collection.

Payments may be mailed, using the enve-
lopes included with the bills; on the city's
website, www.HartfordCT.gov/tax, and in
person at the Office of the Tax Collector,
550 Main Street, Room 106, Hartford,
Connecticut, Monday through Wednesday
between 8:15 a.m. and 2:00 p.m., Thursday
8:15 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. and Friday 8:15 a.m.
to 2:30 p.m. excluding holidays.

Nancy Raich, CCMC
Tax Collector
City of Hartford
7/7, 7/26 7231639

Car Reviews Saturdays in MOTORING



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Simplify your search.**

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NEWS UPDATES 24/7 | TOWNS | WEATHER | LIFE & FAMILY | SPORTS | MONEY

WEST HARTFORD - Estate Sale! Furn,
Baker DR tbl set, painted tall cabinet,
mid-cent tbl/chairs, 2 sofas, BR furn,
lots of kitchware, china, etc, golf clubs
&supplies, photo dev tbl, clothes, boo
ks, Bistro tbl/chairs, watches/jewelry,
lot of misc. Sat 7/9 & Sun 7/10 9am-
4pm. 44 Hamlin Dr.

OBITUARIES BY TOWN

Bloomfield Joseph W. Fandel	Other Towns in CT Ruth D. Brass Dr. John P. Delaney David A. Ryan
Bristol Margo A. Bard Rosita M. Castañeda De Roland O. Pelletier Nadine M. Taggett	Out of State Rosita M. Castañeda De Irene Courtois Dr. Keith D. Sheffler Robert Sullivan
East Hartford Ralph M. D'Onofrio James T. Sexton Roy D. Thornton	Plainville Edith Stavnezer
Farmington Kevin P. D'Amico	Southington Janice D. Procaccini
Glastonbury Ruth D. Brass Brian F. Buxton James T. Sexton	Suffield Elizabeth K. Arnold George V. Laventure
Hartford Sister Jean Carroll, RSM Dr. John P. Delaney Ralph M. D'Onofrio Juanita M. O'Bryant	Tolland Robert Sullivan
Meriden Margo A. Bard	Unionville Kevin P. D'Amico
New Britain Helen M. Viscone	West Hartford Brian F. Buxton Sister Jean Carroll, RSM Patricia M. Funnivall Marjorie A. Stamm
Newington Marjorie A. Stamm	Wethersfield Ronald A. Dobmeier
Old Lyme Lawrence F. Strekel	Windsor Mary Childs Joseph W. Fandel

* Denotes name listing only.
Please note: not all death notices are in alphabetical order.

OBITUARIES

Stavnezer, Edith



Edith Stavnezer, 82, of Plainville passed away on Monday, July 4, 2022 at the Reservoir in West Hartford. Mrs. Stavnezer was born on February 24, 1940 in Brooklyn, NY to Harry and Anna Trestman. She was the beloved wife of Jacob Stavnezer for 61 years. She is survived by her devoted family: daughters Estelle Carenza and her husband Bruce of New Britain, Lori Apruzzese and her husband Pasquale of Plainville; son, Louis Stavnezer of Cape Coral, Florida. She cherished five grandchildren who were her pride and joy: Daniel, Brian, Louis Jr., Ryan and Bella. She was predeceased by her brother Louis Trestman and sister Shirley Brown. Services will be held on Saturday, July 9, 2022 at 11:00 a.m., Fairview Cemetery, 120 Smalley St., New Britain, CT. In lieu of flowers, please make donations to a charity of your choice. Fond memories and expressions of sympathy may be shared at www.NewBritainSagarino.com for the Stavnezer family.

Please sign guestbook at courant.com/obituaries

Delaney, Dr. John P.



Dr. John P. Delaney, known as "Jeff" to colleagues, friends, and family passed away on July 1st at Riverview Medical Center in Red Bank after a valiant 8 year long fight against health issues and cancer. He was a strong and determined man whose main goal in life was to aid, protect, and make life better for children, people with disabilities, and those in need of help and support. Jeff was born in Hartford, CT on March 15, 1943, to his late parents John F. and Mary (Breckner) Delaney, where he also grew up and much of his family remains. He began his career as a teacher and college professor and became an Institutional Program Director. He was employed in Massachusetts, Connecticut, and New Jersey. He turned his focus to running State Institutions for the Handicapped as Superintendent with a goal to protect and give residents a place to live with a humane, safe, and better quality of life. He was very proud of the work he did in Apple Creek, Ohio and Woodbridge Developmental Center in New Jersey. He often spoke of the people he worked with and helped in those places. He turned State Institutions into a "home" for the residents. He also became the Deputy Director of Education and acting State Commissioner of Education while in Ohio. He came to New Jersey from Ohio in 1979 and became the Superintendent of Woodbridge Developmental Center. He again turned what was essentially a holding cell for severely and profoundly handicapped people who were largely ignored, maltreated and sometimes abused, into a home where they had rights, quality education, recreation, and care from a trained and compassionate staff. After leaving Woodbridge Developmental Center, he worked for a few years in Connecticut for the State and then at Robert Wood Johnson Medical Center running the anesthesiology department. Jeff turned his focus back to improving the quality of education for all students in school districts across the state of NJ that were underperforming as an Education Specialist working for the Department of Education of NJ for 20 years before retiring. He fought to improve the quality of education in Abbott Districts like Keansburg, Asbury Park, Long Branch, and Perth Amboy. He has helped thousands of children and people in need over his lifetime.. He has made friends and earned the love and respect of many. Jeff was on the Board of Education for the past 12 years in the Matawan-Aberdeen School system, volunteered and worked with the Monmouth County Human Rights Commission, and is (was) the President of the VFW Auxiliary in Cliffwood. One of the things he was most proud of was being a co-founder and Board of Directors member for K.E.Y.S. Academy housed on the grounds of Brookdale College in Lincroft, NJ. It was created as an alternative High School in conjunction with Matawan -Aberdeen schools for teens from all over the state who have been through Rehab Programs and desperately in need of a supportive environment to turn their lives around to achieve a High School Diploma to become active, productive members of our society. An avid reader, he was almost obsessed by learning everything he could about WWII and the Holocaust. Also interested in the Civil War and history of our country, he spent many family vacations traveling around the states to visit Civil War Battlegrounds and other historical sites. Jeff was a truly remarkable man. One who should be thanked and honored. He touched and changed the lives of many for the better, and will truly be missed. Survived by his beloved wife and partner for over 42 years, Debra, his 5 children, Kelly; John Timothy and his wife, Katie; Jessica; Mary (Beth); and Kyle; as well as his adored grandchildren, Max, Alexander, Lillian, Connor, Aurora, Maya, and William. He will be mourned by his brothers, Stephen and his wife, Angela; and William and his wife, Joan; and their children, his nephews, Zachary, Nicholas, William and Michael. Friends and family are invited to a celebration of Jeff's life on Saturday, July 9th at 10 A.M. at Holy Trinity Church - 53 Capital Ave., Hartford Ct.

Please sign guestbook at courant.com/obituaries

Brass, Ruth D.(Walton)



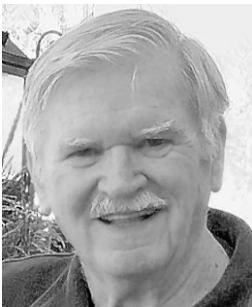
Ruth Brass, wife of Robert Brass, passed away peacefully, one month prior to their 60th Wedding Anniversary, on Sunday, July 3, due to complications from Alzheimer's disease. She was born on October 4, 1940, the daughter of the late John Walton and Katherine Bout. She grew up in Hartford, CT, attended Catholic schools, graduating from Holy Trinity High School in 1958. She married her husband, Bob, in late summer of 1962. While they met and were in the same class at Holy Trinity, it wasn't until Bob was in college that they developed a serious relationship & decided to marry. Ruth attended Bay Path College and worked as an Administrative Assistant for the head of the Claims Dept at Resolute Insurance Company in Hartford. Following the birth of her son Scott, Ruth returned to work as an Administrative Assistant to the President and CEO of Lydall in Manchester. In her 40's, Ruth chose a career change and decided to pursue a Nursing career by enrolling at Greater Hartford Community College. She graduated and worked as a Psychiatric Nurse at both Hartford Hospital and the Institute of Living for over 10 years.

In her spare time, Ruth enjoyed reading, gardening & viewing the various wildlife, who visited her backyard at Eastbury Hill. She was a member of the Yankee Garden Club & the Newcomers Club for residents who were new to the town of Glastonbury. Ruth enjoyed many of the vacations she took with her family but her favorites were to Ogunquit & southern Maine, Cape Cod and the Pennsylvania Dutch Country. She leaves her husband and companion of 60 years, Bob, her son Scott Brass & wife Betsy and two grandchildren, Kevin and Ryan, both of whom she cherished. She is also survived by her nephew, Jack Walton & his wife Marybeth of Cape Cod, MA. Ruth was predeceased by her half brothers, Arthur Walton, John Walton & William Walton and half sister, Jane Penning. In lieu of flowers, friends and relatives can make a donation to their favorite charity or to St. Jude's Children's Hospital. A Mass of Christian Burial will be held in Ss Isidore and Maria Parish at St. Paul Church, 2577 Main St., Glastonbury at 10:00 AM on Tuesday, July 12. Calling hours are on Monday, July 11 from 4:00 – 6:00 PM at the Mulryan Funeral Home, 725 Hebron Ave., Glastonbury. Burial will be in Holy Cross Cemetery, Glastonbury. For online condolences please visit www.mulryanfh.com.



Please sign guestbook at courant.com/obituaries

Sullivan, Robert



With heavy hearts we announce the passing of our beloved husband, father, grandfather, uncle, and friend, Robert J. "Bob" Sullivan. Bob, age 85, died Friday morning July 1 at home following an extended illness. He was an inspiration to all of us, meeting his daily challenges with courage, optimism and concern for his family. His love for us was



boundless. Throughout his illness Bob kept his sense of humor and charm, and never stopped yearning for a way to heal. He exemplified the saying that 'courage isn't having the strength to go on, it is going on when you don't have the strength'.

He was born in 1936 in Hopkinton, MA, son of the late Daniel and Gertrude Sullivan, and was a resident of Tolland, CT for almost 55 years. He graduated from Lyndon State College in VT and obtained his Master's degree from The University of Hartford. He spent the majority of his adult life as a teacher and an administrator in the Stafford Public School System, teaching History and English. He loved his profession and especially his students, remaining friends with many of them until the time of his death.

Bob was a proud veteran who willingly served for over 30 years in the United States Army. He was a distinguished First Sergeant during Operation Desert Storm and was honorably discharged from service in 1996, retiring as a Master Sergeant. The military was a significant part of his life, pride and accomplishments. He was a lifetime member of the Veterans of Foreign Wars and a member of the American Legion.

Bob loved visits with family and friends, crossword puzzles, sports, fishing and traveling out West to national parks. He had a love of food, never meeting a seafood platter or bowl of ice cream he didn't enthusiastically enjoy. He always looked forward to weekly gatherings with friends, and was a charter member of a special group, The ROMEOs (Retired Old Men Eating Out).

Bob leaves behind his loving wife Judith of 54 years. He was blessed with two beautiful daughters, Stephanie Sullivan of Natick, MA, Christine (Frank) Barretta of Southington CT; two grandchildren, who were the lights of his life, Ryan and Alison Barretta; and many nieces and nephews. His little dog Ella also misses him dearly. Bob was predeceased by sisters Mary Kowalyszyn and Joan Sullivan.

Bob also leaves behind many good friends and fond acquaintances, too numerous to mention, though not intentionally overlooked. Our family would like to especially acknowledge John Gracey, who Bob always considered a brother. Our family is forever grateful John was a part of Bob's life for so many years. We wish to thank all who expressed love and concern to Bob and our family during his illness. A special, heartfelt thank you to Gina and the rest of the Visiting Nurses, as well as the Hospice team. They are all true angels.

There are no calling hours per Bob's wishes. A private Celebration of Life will be held at the family's convenience.

Please remember Bob with a smile and an act of kindness to others. In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to the Citizen's Scholarship Foundation of Stafford, Robert Sullivan Fund, P.O. Box 25, Stafford Springs, CT 06076. To leave a condolence online for the family, please visit: www.introvinefuneralhome.com

Please sign guestbook at courant.com/obituaries



Visit the obituary section on courant.com to share memories of loved ones.

OBITUARIES

Carroll RSM, Sister Jean



Sister Jean Carroll, formerly Sister Mary Angeline, died peacefully on July 3, 2022 at Saint Mary Home. Born in East Hartford, CT on August 24, 1926 to Robert Carroll and Kathryn Lenihan. Sister Jean entered the Sisters of Mercy on June 28, 1947 and professed final vows on January 2, 1950.

Sister Jean's Funeral Mass and Wake will be held on Friday, July 8th at Saint Mark the Evangelist Church, 467 South Quaker Lane, West Hartford. Burial will follow in Saint Mary Cemetery, 2021 Albany Avenue, West Hartford.

The wake will begin at 10 a.m., the Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated at 11 a.m., followed by the burial service.

You are asked to consider donations in her memory to the Sisters of Mercy, 25 Prescott Street, 1st floor, West Hartford, CT 06110-2335. To leave online condolences and read the full obituary for Sister Jean, please visit www.SheehanHilbornBreen.com.

Please sign guestbook at courant.com/obituaries

D'Onofrio, Ralph M.



Ralph M. D'Onofrio, 94, of East Hartford (formerly of Hartford), loving husband of Marie (Rinaldi) D'Onofrio for 68 years, passed away peacefully on Saturday, July 2, 2022. Ralph was born February 11, 1928, in Hartford, was one of nine loving children of the late John and Angeline D'Onofrio. He was raised in Hartford and was a graduate of Bulkeley High School. Ralph was a veteran of the U.S. Army, proudly serving his country during the Korean War.

He began his working career as a grocery store manager and later as the maintenance director at Central Connecticut State University, until retiring in 2012. He was a longtime parishioner of St. Rose Church in East Hartford. Ralph enjoyed creating beautiful ceramic pieces, working in his yard and he was known to be able to fix most anything. He also looked forward to his weekly trips to the casino and playing poker with family and friends. Ralph loved spending time with his family and at the end of a day with them, he would say "It Was a Good Day"! Ralph led a very active and full life. He is loved dearly by family and friends and will be greatly missed.

In addition to his beloved wife Marie, he is survived by his dedicated daughter and son-in-law Jolene and Gene Flenke of Vernon, his two cherished grandchildren, Tanya Melaragno and her husband Carmen and their son Alex Melaragno, Jason Flenke, and his wife Melissa and their two sons William and Carter Flenke. Ralph also leaves his sister-in-law Margaret Katroski, and several nieces and nephews. Ralph was predeceased by his six brothers, Michael, Billy, Jimmy, Anthony, Albert, and Fred and his two sisters, Margaret Lombardo, and Mary Lepri. Ralph's family would like to extend a special thank you to his caregiver Edina Gagula, his niece Lori Gibbs for her weekly visits, and to neighbors Tom and Cindy Territo.

A Mass of Christian burial will be celebrated at St. Rose Church, 33 Church St., East Hartford, CT 06108 on Monday, July 11, 2022, at 11:00 am. Burial with Military Honors will follow in St. Mary Cemetery, East Hartford. There are no calling hours. In lieu of flowers memorial contributions may be made to the Alzheimer's Association, CT. Chapter. Samsel & Carmon Funeral Home in South Windsor has care of the arrangements. To leave an online condolence please visit www.carmonfuneralhome.com



Please sign guestbook at courant.com/obituaries

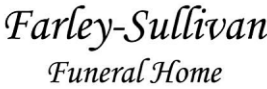
Dobmeier, Ronald A.



Ronald A. Dobmeier, 70 of Wethersfield, beloved brother, uncle and friend, died Sunday July 3, 2022 in Hartford Hospital. He was born in Hartford, on February 8, 1952, son of the late Richard and Marie (Burr) Dobmeier and lived in Wethersfield most of his life. Ron was a graduate of Wethersfield High School, Class of '71. He was a proud

US Navy Veteran, serving from 1971-75 and upon returning went on to graduate from Central Connecticut State University, Class of '79. Ron was a Sales Consultant at many Auto Dealerships in the Central Connecticut area early in his career and went on to work for Double A Transportation in Rocky Hill, where he enjoyed being a School Bus Driver, bringing the shoreline students to Xavier and Mercy High Schools daily. He was a huge sports fan, his favorite teams being the Los Angeles Dodgers and Washington Redskins. His greatest joys in life included; starting each day with the NY Post, a coffee and a smoke and a walk in Old Wethersfield, regular sessions with good friends in "the corner" at the Old Town Café, playing golf at Goodwin Park, fishing on Long Island Sound, trips to Saratoga Race Course, the Casino and any Northeastern Major League Baseball park, road trips to Florida each winter with his niece Lizzy, delivering donuts every Saturday morning to his grandniece and grandnephew and having a Chili Dog at Capitol Lunch. Ron will be greatly missed by his sisters and brother, Mary-Beth Dobmeier, Susan (Dobmeier) Buckland and her husband Tom, Robert Dobmeier and his wife Ann, his sister-in-law Patricia Dobmeier and his aunt, Jeri Sahadi. He also leaves his nieces, Melissa Buckland and her fiancé Jayson, Elizabeth Buckland, Kara Dobmeier, Carolyn Messier and her husband Chris and Laura Dobmeier as well as his grandniece Zoe Williams and grandnephew Tristan Williams and numerous friends. Ron was predeceased by his parents and his brother Richard Dobmeier, Jr.

Friends may call on Friday July 8, 2022 from 5:00 to 8:00 at the Farley-Sullivan Funeral Home, 34 Beaver Road, Wethersfield. A Mass of Christian Burial celebrating Ron's life will be held Saturday July 9, 2022 at 10:00 in Corpus Christi Church of Christ the King Parish, 601 Silas Deane Highway, Wethersfield. Burial will follow in Rose Hill Memorial Park, 580 Elm Street Rocky Hill. In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to The American Cancer Society, PO Box 280285, East Hartford, CT. 06128 or the American Lung Association, 45 Ash St., East Hartford, CT 06108. For further information or to extend condolences, please visit Farleysullivan.com.



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OBITUARIES

Courtois, Irene



Irene (Guerin) Courtois went home to be with the Lord on June 21, 2022 after battling pancreatic cancer. After retiring, Irene and her husband moved from Ashford, CT to their beloved Maine. Irene was born on August 18, 1950 in Hartford, CT to Edmond and Leona Guerin. The family extends sincere thanks to everyone who sent prayers and notes during Irene's last year, all of which strengthened her determination during this incredibly tough fight.

Irene was adventurous, strong, and kind whose generous soul was loved by all. Irene was a faithful & loving wife, wonderful Mother, marvelous sister & aunt, and trusted friend. She took pride in creating a loving home and spreading joy with her wit & humor. She was known as a master puzzle maker and wasn't stumped by the even most difficult ones we could find. Irene enjoyed camping, traveling, listening to music, taking care of her cats & dogs and dancing (she had great rhythm!). Irene leaves behind her loving husband Frank of 53 years, three caring sons and their wives; Patrick (Kelli), David (Mandi), Donald (Samantha), and nine grandchildren whom she adored; Hayli, Haydin, Huntyr, Kolby, Kade, Rease, Gabriella, Kaitlyn, and Jameson. Irene also leaves four siblings; Guy (Danell) Guerin, Jacqueline (Donald) Luizzi, Suzan Christiana (Leon, deceased), and James (Nancy) Guerin, as well as many in-laws, nieces, nephews and friends.

Special thanks to Linda and Dawn of Maine General Hospice Care for the soothing and expert care they provided to Irene.

On Monday July 11 the family will be receiving friends from 9:30 - 10:15 a.m. at Saint Christopher campus of Saint Edmund Campion Parish, 538 Brewer Street, East Hartford, CT followed by a Mass of Christian burial at 10:30.

Please sign guestbook at courant.com/obituaries

Bard, Margo A.



Margo (Pelletier) Bard, 64, of Bristol, passed away on Sunday (July 3, 2022) after a long hard-fought battle with cancer with her loving husband, Ricky Bard, by her side. Margo was born and raised in Meriden and was one of five children of the late Marcel and Marguerite (Dutil) Pelletier. The ultimate Disney fan, she was a longtime General Manager for Friendly's Restaurants, most recently on the Berlin Turnpike, Newington. In addition to her husband of 29 years, she leaves behind her four siblings: Marc Pelletier (Terra) of Middletown, Michelle Sattler of Southington, Michael Pelletier (Tracy) of Texas, and Marianne McClelland (Michael) of Florida; and many cherished nieces and nephews. She will also be missed by her large Friendly's family which she cherished over the years. A special thank you for the caring care from the oncology department at UConn Health. Ricky will greet relatives and friends at St. Ann Church, 215 West St., Bristol on Saturday (July 9, 2022) between 9 and 10 AM followed by the celebration of Mass of Christian Burial at 10 AM. Burial will follow in St. Joseph Cemetery, Bristol. Those wishing to say a cherished good-bye to Dear Margo are invited to bring a single rose to leave at her final resting place. In lieu of flowers memorial donations may be made to St. Jude Children's Research Hospital, 501 St. Jude Place, Memphis, TN 38105 or to the American Cancer Society, PO Box 22718, Oklahoma City, OK 73123. Funk Funeral Home, 35 Bellevue Ave., Bristol, is honored to serve Margo's family. Please visit Margo's memorial web-site at www.FunkFuneralHome.com



Funk's Since 1865
www.FunkFuneralHome.com

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D'Amico, Kevin P.



It is with profound sadness and much love that we mourn the passing of Kevin P. D'Amico of Farmington on Sunday, July 3rd, 2022 at the age of 68. Mr. D'Amico was a cherished Farmington resident, as he was the Superintendent of Westwoods Golf Course for many years. He is survived by his son, Kevin J. D'Amico, his daughter, Carissa D'Amico, his daughter-in-law, Lois M. D'Amico, grandchildren, Anthony Lambo, Isabella D'Amico, Kevin J. D'Amico, Jr., and his brother, Victor D'Amico. Mr. D'Amico will be dearly missed by his friends in Farmington, The Knights of Columbus, and his loving family.

Friends may call at The Ahern Funeral Home, 111 Main St., Rt. 4, Unionville on Friday (July 8) from 4:00-7:00pm. Funeral procession from The Ahern Funeral Home will be Saturday (July 9) at 8:15am followed by the Funeral Liturgy in the Church of St. Mary Star of the Sea, Unionville at 9:00am. Burial will be in St. Mary Cemetery, Avon. To send online condolences to the family, please visit www.ahernfuneralhome.com.

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Arnold, Elizabeth "Betty" K. Van Allen



Elizabeth "Betty" K. (Van Allen) Arnold, 88, lifelong resident of Suffield, passed away peacefully surrounded by her loving family on July 2, 2022. She joins in eternal rest her beloved husband, Joshua Arnold (Vet.) from Hazelhurst, Georgia. Born August 24, 1933, the middle daughter of the late Clarence and Grace (Jubrey) Van Allen. Betty was predeceased by her two loving sister's Doris (Van Allen) Morgan and Rosetta (Van Allen) Stewart, all three, being lifelong residents of Suffield; a daughter Ella Elizabeth Arnold, and a son James E. Arnold. Betty is survived by her daughter, Tanya Rene e Williams and her husband, Lamarrio of Knoxville, TN. Betty's memory also lives on in her loving grandchildren: Al-Tariq Roshaun Stewart of Wethersfield, CT and King William Westberry III of Knoxville, TN. Betty was adored by her two great-granddaughters: Ajahne' Elizabeth Stewart and Nyla Ella Rene'e Stewar; and she leave a host of many other relatives and friends. Betty graduated in 1953 from Suffield High School, where she was a member of the basketball team for all four years and a member of the Glee Club. After High School Betty's first job was with Traveler's Insurance, then Royal Typewriter, and Kaman Aircraft; knowing Charlie Kaman on a first name basis. Then finally settling with the Federal Reserve Bank of Boston, where she worked for 28 years. Betty was a member of Third Baptist Church, of Suffield all her life, she was a former deaconess, usher, Trustee, choir member, head of pastor's aid and church clerk, also a member of the Suffield Council of Churches. She cherished the time she spent with her family, especially her nieces and nephews; she loved to travel, she took numerous "Carnival Cruises" with her beloved husband Josh. She was a great baker and cook, which came in handy during her many church banquets. Her door was always open for anyone, she had a big heart and the ability to listen and comfort you. Her family will receive friends on Monday, July 11, 2022 from 5-8 PM at Third Baptist Church, 188 Kent Ave., Suffield. Funeral services will be held Tuesday, July 12, 2022 at 11:00 AM at Third Baptist Church, Suffield. Burial will be in Woodlawn Cemetery, Suffield. Nicholson & Carmon Funeral Home has care of arrangements. To leave on-line condolences please visit www.carmonfuneralhome.com



CARMON
Community Funeral Homes

Please sign guestbook at courant.com/obituaries

Pelletier, Roland O.



Roland O. Pelletier, 71, of Bristol, loving husband of Bonnie (Brand) Pelletier passed away on Monday (July 4, 2022) at Sharon Health Care Center. He and Bonnie had celebrated 45 years of marriage two days prior to his death. Roland was born September 24, 1950 in Lille, Maine to the late Daniel and Germaine (Choinard) Pelletier.

Roland attended St. Ann Grammar School, Seminary High School in Bucksport, Maine, and received a degree in business from the University of Hartford. As a Bristol resident, he was employed for 24 ½ years at Associated Spring. In his retirement he worked full-time at FedEx Ground and ended his working career at City True Value Hardware. Roland's first love was music. As a member of St. Matthew's Church in Forestville, he was a long-time cantor and choir member. Most recently he also sang at St. Gregory the Great Church in Bristol. He also enjoyed playing guitar with his family especially at Christmas Eve gatherings held every year at Bonnie and Roland's home. Their house was filled with laughter and enthusiastic singing from over 50 family members. In addition to his wife, he is survived by seven brothers and their wives: Leo and Pauline, Lucien and Kathy, Roger and Gloria, Paul and Linda, Thomas and Katie, Normand and Kim, Michael and Victoria; a sister and her husband: Theresa and Gary Morneault; a sister-in-law and her husband: Laurie and Jim Gillette; three Godchildren: Bonnie Lynn Pelletier, Jessica Morneault, and Stephanie Gillette. He is also survived by numerous nieces and nephews who he immensely loved and adored. He was predeceased by a brother, Patrick Pelletier. Bonnie would like to express her sincere gratitude to the staff at Sharon Health Care Center for their compassionate care of Roland during his year-long stay. She would especially like to thank a wonderful staff member, Sheena, who Roland loved dearly. They even had affectionate nicknames for each other. Without her, "Rollie's" journey would have been even more challenging. In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to the Alzheimer's Association, Holy Family Retreat Center in West Hartford, or St. Matthew's Church in Forestville. Funeral services will be held Saturday, July 9, 2022 at 9 a.m. from Funk Funeral Home, 35 Bellevue Avenue, Bristol, to St. Matthew Church, 120 Church Avenue, Forestville, for a Mass of Christian Burial at 10 a.m. Burial will follow in St. Joseph Cemetery, Bristol. Relatives and friends may call at the Funk Funeral Home on Friday, July 8, between 4 and 7 p.m. Please visit Roland's memorial website at www.FunkFuneralHome.com.



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Fandel, Joseph W.



Joseph W. Fandel, 96, of Bloomfield, CT (formerly of Windsor and Stamford) loving husband to the late Mary L. (Walsh) Fandel, passed away peacefully on July 2, 2022, with his family by his side. Joe was born in 1926 in Everett, Massachusetts one of eight children to the late William J. and Marion (Burns) Fandel.

A gentle and loving family man, Joe lived his faith in a humble and sincere way; he was an example of kindness to all who crossed his path. He gave his undivided attention, making you feel like you were the most important person in the world. He never lost the childlike wonder he had for the beauty of nature, he found solace in the mountains. Joe had a long, successful career at IBM and cherished the friendships forged during those years. After his retirement he and his beloved Mary travelled extensively; Italy, France and the Netherlands became their favorite destinations. His greatest joy was his family.

Joe is survived by his three children, William J. Fandel and his wife Marianne of Rockport, MA, Mary Reid and her husband Richard of Windsor and Suzanne Fandel and her husband John Cutrone of Norwalk; his five grandchildren, Todd Bergstrom and his partner Chantal Lallier, Michael Strout, Freddy Strout and his wife Marin, Daniel Reid and Christopher Reid; nine great-grandchildren, Emily, Katie, Abby, Cal, Claudia and her husband David, Mason, Charlie, Sofia and Luca; two great-great-grandchildren, Roman and DJ; four siblings, Louise Weeder, Ann Brennan, Henry Fandel and Arthur Fandel as well as numerous nieces, nephews and extended family. In addition to his wife and parents, Joe was predeceased by three siblings, Edwina Dowd, William J. Fandel, Jr. and John Fandel.

A time of visitation for family and friends will be held on Saturday, July 9, 2022, from 9:30-10:30 a.m. at the Carmon Poquonock Funeral Home, 1816 Poquonock Ave., (Rte 75) Windsor. A Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated at 11 a.m. at St. Joseph Church, 1747 Poquonock Ave., Windsor. Burial will follow in St. Joseph Cemetery, 2085 Poquonock Ave., Windsor. In lieu of flowers and in acknowledgment of the many years of loving care Joe received as a part of the Seabury Community, the family requests memorial donations be made to the Seabury Staff Appreciation Fund, Box # 3108, 400 Seabury Drive, Bloomfield, CT 06002. To leave an online message of condolence for his family, please visit www.carmonfuneralhome.com.

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Ryan, David A.



DAVID A. RYAN, of Milford, Connecticut, passed away peacefully on June 30, 2022, at Griffin Hospital surrounded by his family. He is survived by his wife, Judith Ryan, as well as his five children and their spouses and children: David (Caroline, Victoria, David); Thomas (Linda (fiancé), Joe, Nicholas, Meghan, Jack); William (Cristina, Robert, Alexandra, William); Catherine (Mike, Ryan, Ellie); and Patricia (Mike). He also leaves behind Judith's four children, and their spouses and children: Karen (Bill, Lucy); Laurie (Jim, Greg, Owen); Amy; and Wendy (Eric, Abigail, Peter, Nate). Born August 30, 1939, in New Haven, Connecticut, to the late Connecticut Supreme Court Justice, Elmer W. Ryan, and Dorothy Lawlor Ryan, he graduated from Hopkins School, Yale University, and Cornell University. He was extremely proud to have been a member of Yale's last undefeated, untied football team in 1960. Upon graduating from Cornell with a master's degree from the School of Industrial Labor Relations, David worked for Scovill Manufacturing as Vice President of Labor Relations. He then started and ran a successful management labor relations consulting business while serving as a member of the Connecticut State Board of Mediation and Arbitration for approximately fifty years as an arbitrator. He was proud, and fortunate, to have been able to work until he passed. When recently asked by a doctor in the emergency room at Griffin Hospital, "When did you retire?" he immediately responded, "I am not retired."

David was also a founding member and officer of the Woodbridge Father's Baseball League, the head American Legion baseball coach in Orange, CT for almost two decades, and an assistant football coach at Crosby High School in Waterbury, CT. He will be sorely missed by the countless number of people, both young and old, who knew and loved him, and whose lives he touched. A Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated Friday, July 8, 2022, at 10:00 a.m. in Our Lady of the Assumption Church, 75 Center Rd, Woodbridge, CT. Burial will follow at Milfordside Burying Ground, 1138 Racebrook Road, Woodbridge, CT. Friends and family may call on Thursday, July 7, 2022, from 4:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. at Sisk Brothers Funeral Home 3105 Whitney Ave, Hamden, CT. In lieu of flowers, the family requests that donations be made to either Smilow Cancer Hospital, PO Box 7611, New Haven, CT 06519-0611 or Griffin Hospital, 130 Division St., Derby, CT 06418. www.siskbrothers.com

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Strekel, Lawrence F.



Lawrence F. Strekel, 80, (January 7, 1942 – July 5, 2022) was the thankful son of Francis and Rita and brother to Giles, to whom he is eternally grateful. He was the proud and loving father to Matthew and Alexander, and honored to be the father-in-law of Leslie and Courtney, all of Lyme and Old Lyme. In wonderment, he was the grand "papi" to Grace, Oliver, Benjamin, and Eve. He served on the Lyme Library board, District 18 Board of Education, was a retired member of the Connecticut Air National Guard and the American Legion. He was a graduate of St. Cyril and Methodius Elementary (Hartford), Ellsworth High School (South Windsor) and Holy Apostles College and Seminary. He was a parishioner of Christ the King Church in Old Lyme, where he also taught CCD, and a long-time member of the Mille Creek Beach Club. Larry was a passionate Red Sox fan and supporter of all UConn sports, but especially men's and women's basketball. That passion for sports led to volunteerism across youth sports in Lyme-Old Lyme, most notably in founding the Lyme Ticks instructional baseball team, and the Lyme Dragons, believed to be the first team to allow both boys and girls and play on the same team. In basketball, he left his mark by teaching his sons the set shot along with the difficult to defend hook shot. He loved old movies, and was instrumental in bringing cable television to Lyme-Old Lyme via his presence on the Cable Board.

Larry believed strongly in holding doors open for people, celebrating Christmas for as long as possible, the USA as the greatest country in the world, and focusing on making improvements in your own community to impact the greatest change. Larry's favorite place in the world was on his back deck watching his grandchildren swim in the pool, the occasional backyard fireworks show, and talking with his sons along with Leslie and Courtney. There is no doubt how much he loves them all and how proud he is of each of them – with years of notes from their lunch boxes to prove it.

A Mass of Christian Burial will be held on Monday, July 11, 2022 at 10:00am in Christ the King Church 1 McCurdy Rd., Old Lyme. Calling Hours will be held on Sunday, July 10, 2022 from 4:00 until 6:00pm in Fulton-Theroux Funeral Home, 13 Beckwith Ln., Old Lyme, CT 06371. Please visit www.fultontherouxoldlyme.com for tributes and directions.

In lieu of flowers, please consider a donation to Christ the King, Florence Griswold Museum, Xavier High School, or your local youth sports organization.

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Stamm, Marjorie A. (Lynch)



Marjorie Ann (Lynch) Stamm, 94, of Newington, passed away peacefully at home on Monday June 20, 2022, with family by her side. She was the beloved wife of the late Newell Stamm with whom she had five children. Marge was a Graduate of the University of Connecticut, and a member of the Pi Beta Phi Sorority. Her love of children inspired her to become an elementary school teacher, and she volunteered for many community activities in both Connecticut and Rhode Island. She was the daughter of Robert and Helen (Mahoney) Lynch. Born in Watertown, MA, she was raised in West Hartford, CT. After her marriage to Newell they settled in Newington, CT. She cherished her family, her greatest joy was to be together, laughing, sharing a meal and telling stories. Marge's family always felt her unwavering love and encouragement. She leaves her five children, Newell Stamm, Jr. and his wife Maura of Newington, Linda Stamm and her husband Arnold Patch of Farmington, Diane Stamm of Newington, Roger Stamm and his wife Marcy of Newington, and Bill Stamm and his wife Linda of Anchorage, AK, and her grandchildren, Alex, Nick, Greg and his fiancée Emily Sanyshyn, Skyler, Raia, Collin and Michael Stamm. She also leaves her sister and brother-in-law Joan and Norman Slenko, her sisters-in-law, Phyllis Webster, Norma Venavango, Eleanor Newton and Barbara Stamm, as well as many nieces and nephews. She was predeceased by her siblings, Mary Eleanor, Robert, Eileen and Richard Lynch. She grew up loving the beach and always looked forward to spending summers in Rhode Island. Marge was an avid bridge player into her 80's, she was skilled at teaching the game to others and valued the many friendships she made while playing. Relatives and friends are invited to call on Sunday, July 10th, from 4:00 pm to 6:00 pm at the Duksa Family Funeral Homes at Newington Memorial, 20 Bonair Ave., Newington. Her funeral service will be held on Monday, July 11th at 11:00 a.m. at the funeral home. She will be laid to rest following the service in West Meadow Cemetery. Memorial donations may be made to the Lucy Robbins Welles Library at <https://www.newingtonct.gov/1929/Ways-to-Give-to-the-Library> or the Watch Hill Yacht Club Sailing Association at <https://www.whycsailingassociation.org/>. To share a memory or condolence, please visit us at www.duksa.net.



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OBITUARIES

LaVenture, George V.



George V. LaVenture II, 52, of Western Springs, IL formerly of MA and CT, passed away on Saturday, June 25, 2022 at his home surrounded by family and friends. Born July 3, 1969 in Springfield, MA, son of Cynthia Blanchard of Enfield and the late James D. LaVenture who was married to Carol Accorsi. George was a graduate of SUNY Albany. He was currently employed with Prudential Financial for the past twenty six years. He started his work with the company in Connecticut and later, when he relocated, worked in Chicago. He leaves his career as the Regional Vice President of the greater Chicago area. George was driven and dedicated to his career. He had a love for boating, was an automobile enthusiast, and enjoyed spending time with his beloved dog Blackjack. Besides his mother, Cynthia he is survived by his stepfather, Tad Blanchard of Enfield; two sisters, Charlene Spano and her husband, Christopher Musumeci of Enfield, Eleanor Roberts and her husband, Shane of Bell Buckle, TN; niece and nephews, Joe Spano, Isabella, and Liam Roberts; and life long friends, Brigitte and Dan Fauteux and family of North Granby. A private service will be held for the family. Please join us for a Celebration of Life that will be held on Friday, July 8, 2022 at 2:00 PM at the Skyline Restaurant, 106 Ella Grasso Tpk, Windsor Locks, CT. Nicholson & Carmon Funeral Home have care of arrangements. To leave on-line condolences please visit www.carmonfuneralhome.com



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Buxton, Brian F.

Brian F. Buxton 74, of Auburn Road, West Hartford, CT, passed away at Hartford Hospital on June 21, 2022. He was born to Brewster and Beatrice (Fuller) Buxton of Glastonbury CT. He graduated from Glastonbury High School (Class of '66) and the Silvermine School of Fine Art in New Canaan CT. He was a Partner in Alexander Whinnem & Sons, a specialty painting business, and worked on many historic homes, including the Harriet Beecher Stowe and Mark Twain houses. Brian is survived by his loving wife of 54 years, Deborah Buxton of West Hartford; his brother Bruce Buxton and his wife Patrice of South Hadley MA; his cousins Gail, Leslie and Mel of New York City; his sister-in-law Barbara Knickerbocker and her husband, Robert Knickerbocker of Sarasota, FL; his nephew Ronald Whinnem of West Hartford, with whom he shared a special relationship; and six nieces and their families. Brian enjoyed many hobbies, including rebuilding Citroens, assembling and playing a wide range of music on high-end analogue stereo equipment, playing his guitar, inventing all manner of things, and continuously restoring his West Hartford home. Brian deeply loved his family and his many friends, he touched many hearts, and will be remembered as one of the most interesting and knowledgeable individuals one could encounter and have a conversation with. Friends may call at the Mulryan Funeral Home, 725 Hebron Ave., Glastonbury CT on Sunday, July 10, 10am-12 noon. Donations in Brian's name may be made to the Cancer Research Institute, 29 Broadway, Floor 4, New York, NY 10006-3111. For online condolences please visit www.mulryanfh.com.



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IN MEMORIAM

In Loving Memory Of
FRANCESCO 'FRANK' TETI



April 18, 1926-July 7, 2019

It's been 3 years and we miss you more than ever, Daddy. Nothing is the same without you. Your smile, your laugh, your gratitude, and your words of wisdom are just some of the things that keep you in our hearts and on our minds every day. We'll love you forever!

In Loving Memory Of
STEPHEN J. LOOMIS JR.
June 7, 1963 - July 7, 1985

Stephen, You are sadly missed by all of us.
I will love you forever.
Love Always, Dan



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O'Bryant, Juanita M. (Sailor)

Juanita M. (Sailor) O'Bryant of Hartford, CT passed away peacefully with family at home on Friday June 24, 2022. Born in Hartford, CT December 8, 1934 to William and Arlie (McKinney) Sailor. Mother of five children; Antoinette Cross (deceased). Survived by four children; Deborah A. O'Bryant, Marjorie Williams, Diane Turner, and William G. O'Bryant. Calling hours 11:00 AM followed by funeral services 12:00 PM at Mt. Olive Church Ministries, 20 Battles Street., Hartford, CT Friday, July 8, 2022. All Faith Memorial Chapel 90 John Fitch Blvd. So. Windsor, CT has charge of arrangements.

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Childs, Mary



Mary Weatherington Matthews Childs, 84, of Windsor, CT, went home to be with the Lord on Tuesday, June 21, 2022. Mary was born on July 16, 1937, in Selma, AL to the late Bascon Weatherington and Etuara (Goines) Weatherington.

A celebration of Mary's life will take place on Friday, July 8, 2022, at 11:00am with a visitation from 10:00am – 11:00am at Mt. Calvary Baptist Church, 2 FD Oates Avenue, Hartford, CT 06120. Interment will be held at Spring Grove Cemetery, 2035 Main Street, Hartford, CT 06120. To leave a message of comfort for the family of Mrs. Mary, please visit, www.hkhfuneralservices.com



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Viscone, Helen "Peaches" M.



Helen M. "Peaches" Viscone passed away peacefully June 28, 2022 into Eternal Life. She was loved by everyone who knew her and always volunteering for a cause. She was a longtime member of St. Ann Church, their Ladies Guild and past President of the CT Animal Welfare League. Helen was born in New Britain, Ct., the daughter of the late Alex & Stella (Kachonowski) Jacynowicz. She is survived by her sister and brother-in-law, Sophie and Ken Strosko and many nieces, nephews, great nieces and great nephews. Helen was predeceased by her brothers, Stanley, Stephen, Edward and Teddy Jacynowicz; and her former husband, Albert J. Viscone. Funeral rites for Helen will be held Saturday, July 9, 2022 at 10 am from the Paul A. Shaker Funeral Home, 764 Farmington Ave, New Britain. Entombment will follow in St. Mary Garden Mausoleum at St. Mary Cemetery, 1309 Stanley St, New Britain, Ct. Relatives and friends may call at the Funeral Home from 9 am to 11 am. To share a memory of Helen or to extend condolences to her family, please visit: www.shakerfuneralhome.com

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Furnivall, Patricia M. (Crane)



Patricia Marie (Crane) Furnivall of West Hartford, passed away peacefully on her 94th birthday, Friday, July 1, 2022, after celebrating with family in the home in which she had lived for the last 63 years. She shared many qualities with her lifelong friend, Winnie the Pooh, whose words we feel today: "How lucky I am to have something that makes saying goodbye so hard."

Pat was born in 1928 in Weehawken, NJ to Marie Elizabeth (Haverty) and James Earl Crane. After her father's passing in 1936, she and her mother traveled to Illinois to be near extended family and to make their way through the Depression and World War II together. Pat attended New Trier High School in Winnetka, IL before heading east to Mount Holyoke College, an institution to which she was a devoted and active alumna, eventually becoming a Trustee of the College, President of the Alumnae Association, and proudly earning the Alumnae Medal of Honor. Pat's post-college career began at Dun & Bradstreet followed by AT&T in New York City. She left the workplace to marry William Harbison Furnivall, with whom she raised their two children, James Crane and Elizabeth Marie, until Bill's untimely death in 1983. A professed "one-man woman," Pat spent the next four decades continuing to focus on family, friends, and involvement in the community as a Trustee for Hartford College for Women for over 25 years, her church, and world travel. When grandchildren arrived on the scene, she enthusiastically embraced her role as Grammy Pat. It was Pat's highly esteemed values of honesty, loyalty, and pragmatic counsel that touched many people and made her a valued contributor wherever she went. Her delicious holiday cookies, custom-shaped birthday cakes, perfectly wrapped gifts, witty wordplay, and sweet humility were some of the things that made holidays and family gatherings so special and memorable. Pat is survived by her son, Jim, and his wife Lisa (Wesolowski) of Daniel Island, SC; her daughter, Beth, and her husband Brian Keane of Weston, MA; five grandchildren, Sarah, Alexander, and Victoire Keane, Garrett and Jack Furnivall; and her niece and nephews. Her family was her pride and joy and will continue to strive to embody the qualities she held dear. Funeral services will be held at 11 a.m. on Saturday, July 9, 2022, at First Church of Christ Congregational, 12 South Main Street, West Hartford, CT. The family will receive friends and well-wishers at a reception immediately afterwards. Gifts may be made in Pat's memory to The Mount Holyoke Fund at Mount Holyoke College, PO Box 889, South Hadley, MA 01075. Online expressions of sympathy may be made at www.SheehanHilbornBreen.com.

Sheehan Hilborn Breen
FUNERAL HOME

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Sexton, James T.



James T. Sexton (86) of Glastonbury, formerly of East Hartford, beloved husband of Maureen 'Mo' Sexton passed away peacefully on July 4 at Hartford Hospital after a period of declining health. Jim was born to John and Catherine Sexton and grew up in Brooklyn with his 5 siblings with whom he remained very close throughout his life. Jim and Mo grew up in the same neighborhood and wed shortly after Jim graduated from Kings Point, the Merchant Marine Academy in 1960.

Jim and Mo raised their family in East Hartford and reside at the Hearth, Glastonbury. He retired from a career in insurance as a computer programmer.

Jim was a kind, gentle soul who enjoyed brightening the day of those around him. He was very proud of his immediate and extended family and treasured many wonderful trips and family gatherings in Ireland, Cape Cod, California, New York, Vermont and Massachusetts.

Jim was a wonderful dad for his six children - Maureen (Mike), Jim (Holly), Jack, Chris (Leslie), Diane and Dan. He delighted in his ten beloved grandchildren Erin (Austin), Michael, Devon, Jack, Alexandra, Lindsay, Riley, Brendan, Maeve and Avery and was excited about the next generation of the family with his great granddaughter expected this month.

Jim also leaves his sisters Peg and Kathy as well as his in-laws Eileen, Joan, Geraldine, John, Pat and Bill. In addition to his parents, he was predeceased by his brothers, Jack, Richie and Michael and in-laws Jack, Barbara, John and Jerry. He also enjoyed his many cousins, nieces and nephews.

Jim treasured many friendships at the Hearth. He was blessed with wonderful caregivers - helping to manage his meds, getting him to his appointments and keeping him healthy, well fed, and looking good. His friends appreciated his old jokes, quick smile, hallway greetings, dinner discussions and social hour get togethers.

A celebration of life will be held later this summer. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the Henry Low Heart Center at Hartford Hospital. <https://giving.hartfordhospital.org/donatenow>.

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Thornton, Roy Donald



Roy Donald Thornton 69 of East Hartford, CT peacefully passed on 06/10/2022 at St. Francis Hospital, born in Granby, CT on 04/18/1953 to Joseph Thornton & Ever Lee Coleman-Thornton. Roy attended Hartford Public Schools. He is survived by sisters Mary Thornton, Vera Thornton and Loretta Thornton-Clay of West Hartford, CT and two half sisters Velma Jones & Etta Bell and a host of nieces, nephews. There will be no viewing. Burial will be private at family's request.

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Hundreds mourn ex-Bristol Mayor Ward

Hailed as leader who ‘put the community above his party’

By Don Stacom
Hartford Courant

More than 250 mourners, including six former Bristol mayors, turned out Wednesday morning for the funeral of Art Ward, who served three terms in the city’s top office. Friends recalled Ward as a

community leader, family man and proud Marine Corps veteran from the Vietnam era. “The great thing about Art is that he put the community above his party,” Mayor Jeff Caggiano said outside St. Gregory Church Wednesday morning. “We had every living previous mayor except one, and that was only because he couldn’t get here.” Ward died June 29 at 75. His family announced his death on Facebook the next day, saying only that he had died unexpectedly at home.

Although Ward has been out of city politics for years, he was still active in promoting local veterans’ causes and organizations, and took part in this year’s Forestville Memorial Day parade. His time in city government spanned more than 30 years, starting with eight years on the zoning appeals board and 14 on the city council. He was close to then-Mayor Gerard Couture, who named him as deputy mayor. Ward, a Democrat, was near the center of the controversial 2005 decision to buy and demolish the

failing Bristol Centre Mall; he was reelected that year, but Couture was voted out in favor of Republican Bill Stortz. Ward became embroiled in a series of political battles during that time. He had become alienated from fellow council Democrats, and then clashed steadily for two years with Stortz, who stripped him of the deputy mayor title as well as his slot on the public works committee. For a period, Ward wasn’t on



Bristol Mayor Art Ward at City Hall in 2012. HARTFORD COURANT

Turn to Ward, Page 2



Uber and Lyft drivers with the Connecticut chapter of the Independent Drivers Guild rally at the state Capitol on Wednesday for higher pay and collective bargaining. STEPHEN UNDERWOOD/HARTFORD COURANT

Updated jobless system debuts

State launches \$60M unemployment benefits system

By Stephen Singer
Hartford Courant

WETHERSFIELD — Gov. Ned Lamont and state labor officials unveiled an updated unemployment benefits system Wednesday following a six-year, \$60 million makeover of the antiquated computer program that confounded and frustrated unemployed workers during the worst of the pandemic. Over the past 24 hours since the launch, 19,900 unemployed workers have filed for benefits by establishing new accounts in the ReEmployCT system and 7,500 have filed their weekly certification, according to the state Department of Labor. At the peak of the employment crisis in early May 2020, the agency worked through about 390,000 weekly unemployment insurance claims, or nearly 19% of Connecticut’s labor force. “Imagine, Danté, if we had that platform then,” Lamont said to Commissioner Danté Bartolomeo at a gathering of agency employees and others at the Department of Labor headquarters in Wethersfield. The new system will streamline the filing process for unemployed workers and the approximately 115,000 employers who pay into the state’s Unemployment Trust Fund. The upgrade, which cost Connecticut \$25 million and

Turn to System, Page 2

Ride-share drivers rally

By Stephen Underwood
Hartford Courant

Bill Hearn, a ride-share driver with Uber and Lyft for five years, believes it’s nearly impossible nowadays to make a living in an industry choked by rising costs and low pay. As gas prices continue to climb amid historic inflation, ride-share drivers are bearing the burden of having to drive more for less. “There is no job security anymore,” said Hearn, a labor organizer with the Independent

Workers protest rising costs and low pay: ‘Our drivers are fighting to survive’

Drivers Guild. “It has gotten to the point where I tell people not to even become drivers. Rideshare companies take more than half of your profits and when you factor in gas and maintenance costs we’re lucky to even make a profit.” To protest the rising costs, Uber and Lyft drivers affiliated with the Connecticut chapter of the Independent Drivers Guild rallied outside the state Capitol

on Wednesday asking for higher pay and more worker protection. The Independent Drivers Guild is the largest ride-share driver organization in the nation. The advocacy group’s primary mission is to unite drivers in their campaign for the right to collective bargaining and to prevent driver exploitation. “We’re here fighting for fairness,” said Sohail Rana, senior organizer for the Guild. “Even

with the high gas prices and inflation, these companies are still taking more than half of our drivers profits and the added 55 cents surcharge isn’t enough. Our drivers are fighting to survive but meanwhile these companies continue to take more money.” Back in March, Uber and Lyft announced an additional surcharge for customers of either \$0.45 or \$0.55 per trip. That extra charge was added in response to record high gas prices caused

Turn to Drivers, Page 2

Yale: Insulin a ‘catastrophic’ expense for more than 1M

By Ed Stannard
Hartford Courant

Insulin has been available for 100 years to contain diabetes, but a doubling in price in the last 20 years has made it nearly — or totally — unaffordable for low-income Americans, according to a study by a Yale School of Medicine researcher. Dr. Kasia Lipska, an associate professor specializing in endocrinology, said of the 7 million Americans who require insulin for their diabetes, the cost of the drug is

considered “catastrophic health spending” for 1.1 million people. That means that, after spending for necessities, such as food and housing, insulin makes up 40% or more of a person’s remaining available income, she said. More than 37 million Americans have diabetes, and 96 million have prediabetes, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, a number that has doubled in the last 20 years. It is the seventh-leading cause of death in the United States, according to the CDC.

While the overall level is 14%, “21 percent of people who are covered by Medicare for their insulin reached catastrophic levels of spending,” Lipska said. Those covered by Medicare are the largest group that uses insulin. “It is a group that is very vulnerable to catastrophic spending. There are a lot of different [Medicare] plans and some plans are really stingy.” Those who are uninsured are also extremely vulnerable, Lipska said.

Turn to Insulin, Page 2

Hartford council puts off charter revision hearing

Live broadcast issues and legal concerns force postponement

By Ted Glanzer
Hartford Courant

HARTFORD — The Hartford City Council’s virtual public hearing on the charter revision commission’s recommendations was shut down Tuesday after questions arose as to whether the hearing was legal under the state’s freedom of information law. Due to technical difficulties, Hartford Public Access Television was not able to broadcast

or stream the meeting live on its cable television channel or on its website. The hearing had gone on about 20 minutes and included a portion of Hartford Mayor Luke Bronin’s comments on the proposed revisions before Councilman Josh Michtom asked corporation counsel Howard Rifkin and Councilman John Gale, who was leading the hearing, if the hearing was actually public if it wasn’t being carried by HPATV pursuant to the city’s legal notice. “Is this meeting live at all or no?” Michtom asked.

Turn to Charter, Page 2



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CONNECTICUT

Stamford crews rescue women under train, CT Transit bus

By Mike Mavredakis
Hartford Courant

Stamford fire crews helped rescue a woman who fell under a Metro North train and a woman trapped under a Connecticut Transit bus on Tuesday.

According to the Stamford Fire Department, a woman fell between the train and the platform at the Springdale Train Station around 8 p.m. The train was quickly de-energized and secured by the Metro North conductor and engineer in order

to give safe access to first responders.

Crews were able to place the woman in a stokes basket and remove her from underneath the train. She was taken to the hospital for her injuries by emergency services.

According to fire officials, the extent of her injuries were unknown as of Tuesday night.

Earlier Tuesday, Stamford fire crews also removed a woman from under a CT Transit bus.

According to officials, Stamford fire crews

received multiple 911 calls of a woman struck by a bus at the intersection of Broad and Atlantic Streets shortly after 3 p.m. Callers stated that the woman was still trapped under the bus.

At the scene, firefighters found a woman trapped under the front axle of a CT Transit bus. According to fire officials, the woman was alert and conscious.

Fire crews used an extrication process to stabilize the bus and lifted the bus using a high-pressure airbag to remove the woman in less than 10 minutes, according

to reports.

“This was a valiant and flawless effort by Stamford Firefighters that demonstrates their exceptional talents and the department’s capabilities. Given the size and weight of this bus, we are very grateful that her injuries were not more serious,” said Stamford Deputy Chief Matt Palmer in a release.

The woman was transferred to a Stamford EMS ambulance and sent to Stamford Hospital for evaluation. Stamford police are handling the investigation.

Charter

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“Everyone who is going to see it other than the people who are speaking will see it recorded.”

“That’s kind of my understanding,” Gale replied. “I don’t know that this is live.”

Michtom then asked whether the meeting satisfied the “public meeting law” because the meeting has to be public, and anyone can get in without having to give their name or without having to fill out a questionnaire.

“As I look at the website, it seems like the only way to get in here is to sign up to speak,” Michtom said. “So it seems like the meeting is not public.”

Rifkin acknowledged Michtom’s concerns.

“Councilman Michtom may have a very legitimate point in question,” Rifkin said. “I’m not sure this live taped event would constitute a public hearing where people could, in addition to signing up in advance, be motivated to talk or [have] commentary on the proposed charter revision.”

Gale suggested having the hearing moved to Thursday at 7 p.m., when a city council committee of the whole meeting was tentatively scheduled.

Council president T.J. Clarke noted, however, that the city had to give 48 hours notice for the public hearing and, therefore, there wasn’t sufficient time to satisfy that requirement.

Clarke suggested holding another public hearing at a later date for members of the public to weigh in, including the mayor.

“That will probably require the council to delay its vote, to push it back another month, but we want to do our due diligence and make sure all members of the public are adequately engaged so that we can hear what their comments are,” Clarke said, adding he wanted to see if any analysis had been done concerning what the budget would look like if the council were expanded to 13 or 15 members.

Rifkin said if any changes were made and sent back to the commission, it would have 30 days within which to consider the recommended changes before referring its recommendations back to the council.

Michtom then asked whether the hearing constituted a meeting with more than four members, in violation of the freedom of information law.

“I’m going to say again, we should just stop now and start again later,” he said.

Gale said he didn’t think it was a meeting, but instead was a public hearing.

“But a private meeting, though,” Michtom said. “No one is here but us.”

Councilor Tiana Hercules said the public didn’t have a meaningful opportunity to communicate or participate in the hearing, making what they were doing a private meeting.

“I would suggest we close the private meeting and schedule it for another day,” she said. “The issue at hand is a little too important, and the public should have a meaningful opportunity to participate in the meeting.”

Rifkin said he also did not believe it was a private meeting.

“It was noticed. Proper notice was given, an opportunity to ask to testify was

given,” Rifkin said. “I think the problem in terms of the state statute with respect to the charter revision commission is that this hearing is not accessible in real time to individuals. I wouldn’t want people who are reviewing this recording to suggest this is an illegal, improper meeting or private meeting of the council. That is just not the case.”

Gale then adjourned the hearing and said it will be rescheduled for sometime next week.

Prior to that discussion, Bronin had given a portion of his comments on the proposed charter revisions before Gale asked Bronin to yield for a member of the public to participate in the hearing.

Hartford resident Alyssa Peterson called the charter revision commission “a colossal failure” and said she was going to be gathering signatures on a petition to put an alternative on the November ballot.

Peterson said the city has a “weak council form of government, it requires structural change.”

“Our current council has turned over more power than ever to a strong mayor,” Peterson said, adding that she believed former council President Shawn Wooden wielded too much authority when he was in office. “That power pendulum swung too far and now it’s swung back too far again. So now is the time for true structural charter change.”

Peterson said every neighborhood in Hartford needs its own representation on the council, and called for an expansion of the council to 15 members.

“New Britain currently has 15, Bridgeport has 20, New Haven has 30,” she said. “Our current, nine at-large [councilors] are not enough.”

Peterson said currently it takes just five votes from at-large council members, representing no specific neighborhoods, to “hand over power of the purse to the mayor.”

“This proposed charter before us is DOA — dead on arrival,” she said. “I’m looking forward to gathering signatures for basic charter change for real neighborhood council representation.”

The public hearing confusion represented one more glitch in a charter revision process that hasn’t always been smooth.

In the spring, six of the commission’s 14 members — including all four Black members — stepped aside, but did not resign, following allegations of side meetings between other members of the commission and City Hall officials to prevent certain measures, including the formation of a form a board of police commissioners to govern the city’s Police Department, from being adopted.

The charter revision commission is formed, by law, every 10 years to study and propose changes to what’s effectively the city’s constitution.

The process is nearing completion, with the commission having forwarded its recommendations to the City Council. Following the public hearing and any changes that are made, the potential charter revisions will be on the November ballot for voters to approve or decline.

Ted Glanzer can be reached at tglanzer@courant.com

Man dies after being shot in New London

By Mike Mavredakis
Hartford Courant

A man is dead after a shooting in New London on Tuesday night, police said.

New London police officers responded to the area of Colman Street and West Pleasant Street in New London for reports of gunfire around 10:35 p.m. where they found a man with life-threatening injuries.

The man was transported to Lawrence + Memorial Hospital where he was later pronounced dead, New London police said. His identification is pending notification of next of kin.

Police said the shooting does not appear to be a random accident. The investigation is active and anyone with information is asked to contact the New London Police Department at 860-447-1481.

Two people, dogs rescued from Simsbury house fire

By Mike Mavredakis
Hartford Courant

Two people were rescued from a fire that trapped them on the second floor of a house in Simsbury early Wednesday.

Around 2:45 a.m., emergency crews were called to a home on Bushy Hill Road.

According to the Simsbury Volunteer Fire Company, the fire started in the kitchen and was mostly

contained to that area. The two occupants were stuck on the second floor due to the heat and smoke generated by the fire.

The two people were transported to the hospital as a precaution, the fire department said. Two dogs were also rescued in the blaze and are fine, according to fire officials.

The fire marshal is investigating the cause of the fire.

Insulin

from Page 1

Most people with diabetes are insured by Medicare, 41%, or private insurance, 35.7%.

People covered by Medicaid “were relatively protected” from catastrophic spending “compared to people covered by Medicare,” she said.

“Insulin’s been around for 100 years. It’s an old medicine,” Lipska said. “The insulin we use today is the same we used 20 years ago and even in that span of time the price has gone up 200 percent.”

Part of the price issue is because insulin is manufactured by just three companies: Eli Lilly & Co., Novo Nordisk Inc. and Sanofi.

“The second reason is there are these sort of middlemen, pharmacy

benefit managers,” she said. “They negotiate for drugs on behalf of health plans but they also keep a profit.”

Lipska said she and her co-authors were led to do the study by all the news about how high insulin prices are, “and of course they are,” she said.

“We looked at out-of-pocket spending on insulin in relation to how much the person had in resources,” she said.

Spending on insulin is only part of the expense of treating diabetes, she said. People must buy test strips, other diabetes medicines, glucose monitors, insulin pumps and health care visits.

They found “the odds of catastrophic spending do not differ by age, sex, race, ethnicity, region of the United States, but it does differ by what insurance carrier covered

their insulin,” Lipska said.

The study was published Tuesday in the journal Health Affairs.

Lipska said there is legislation to address the issue, but that it may not be adequate for those of low income. “Lots of states, including Connecticut, have imposed caps on copays for state-insured plans,” she said.

In 2020, Gov. Ned Lamont signed a bill capping copays for insulin and other diabetes medications at \$25 for a 30-day supply.

A bill known as the Affordable Insulin Now Act has passed the U.S. House of Representatives and is awaiting action in the Senate. That would cap copays at \$35.

That cost “may sound relatively modest ... but it depends,” Lipska said. “Even that \$35 may put some people over that cata-

strophic spending limit.”

The bill doesn’t cover Medicaid because “it’s relatively generous. Most states have no copay on insulin or very minimal ones,” she said.

But it also doesn’t cover uninsured patients.

“You’re having the most problems having income to cover your insulin but you’re not included in that proposed bill,” Lipska said.

“I think we need to do better in terms of protecting our patients who need insulin,” she said. “It’s shocking to me that so many Americans are at catastrophic levels of a drug that’s been around for 100 years.”

The study included data from the most recent Medical Expenditures Panel Survey, which covered 2017 to 2018.

Contact Ed Stannard at estannard@courant.com.

System

from Page 1

drew \$35 million from the federal government, replaced 1970s-era COBOL computer programming language with cloud-based computing. It failed to keep up with the sudden increase in unemployment caused by business lockdowns ordered by the Lamont administration to slow the spread of COVID-19 months before a vaccine was developed.

Tens of thousands of unemployed workers could not file for benefits or contact Department of Labor personnel who were overwhelmed by phone

calls pleading for help. In addition, the state shut its employment offices, making it impossible to get information face-to-face.

The state administered \$10.2 billion in benefits with eight unemployment insurance program during the pandemic, up from one, Bartolomeo said. The new system is accessible online 24/7 and will help with accounting, reporting and data analysis, she said.

An initial 8,300 applications in one day, followed by the same number in each of the following two days, overwhelmed the system that, at its height, previously handled 10,000 in a week, Barolomeo said.

“We now know what can happen,” she said. “We are ready.”

At the start of the pandemic in 2020, Connecticut’s Unemployment Insurance Trust Fund was 50% solvent, according to federal benchmarks. Connecticut has borrowed \$952.5 million and repaid \$782.5 million with \$657.5 million in state unemployment taxes and \$125 million federal rescue funding. The balance is \$170 million.

Lamont said \$30 million in federal rescue funding covers interest payments for the life of the loan, preventing special assessments on employers. Additional \$40 million rescue plan funding

to offset a state unemployment tax decrease more than paid the state’s federal unemployment tax increase. The federal tax will increase by 0.3%.

Eric Gjede, vice president of public policy at the Connecticut Business & Industry Association, said later that the federal unemployment tax increase will hurt employers. Businesses have said the tax increase is particularly burdensome as they deal with worker shortages, inflation and continuing health-related questions related to COVID-19.

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Ward

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speaking terms with Stortz or most council members.

But in 2007, Ward’s political career was revived when he was elected mayor.

He won reelection twice after that, but decided in 2013 to retire.

During his administration, Ward worked to restore the downtown revitalization project that had meandered under Stortz, and also got the city through several difficult fiscal years while maintaining its strong bond rating.

The most dramatic days of his tenure began on Dec. 4, 2010, when he survived a near-death choking accident.

Ward choked and collapsed while eating steak at the Italian Social Club; he went without oxygen for an estimated 5 to 7 minutes.

At Bristol Hospital’s intensive care unit, he was put on a respirator and into a medically induced coma for most of two weeks.

He underwent extensive physical therapy afterward, and slowly returned to work later that winter. He won his last election in the fall of 2011.

“Two words come to mind: Sacrifice and service,” Rev. John Dietrich said during Wednesday’s service.

“When you’re a mayor, you’re about as close to the people as you could possibly be — you live right there with the community. There is a price to be paid,” Dietrich said. “You give up time with family. And how much time did he give to veterans’ associations?”

Dietrich noted that Ward, a lifelong Bristol resident, was a faithful member of the parish as well as a husband, father and grandfather. Friends said public service runs in Ward’s family, and

noted that his son, Kevin, is a longtime Bristol police detective.

Nearly a dozen Bristol police officers and commanders attended the funeral, along with several city department heads and community leaders.

Former mayors Ellen Zoppo-Sassu, Mike Werner, John Leone, Frank Nicastro as well as Couture and Stortz attended. Caggiano said former Mayor Ken Cockayne, who now lives in Florida, wasn’t able to get a flight to Connecticut.

“This is the kind of community that Bristol is,” Caggiano said.

Drivers

from Page 1

partly by the War in Ukraine and bans on Russian oil. The surcharge, which goes directly to the drivers, was designed to ease some of the burden at the pump.

“It’s just not enough,” said Ammy Singh, an Uber driver from Manchester who has been driving for almost two years. “It’s kind of insulting. Gas prices are so high and

most fares are several miles away. Fifty cents just doesn’t cut it.”

Singh, who regularly takes trips from Bradley International Airport, said that he fears for his safety as a driver and occasionally feels threatened by passengers.

“I gave someone a ride one time where he physically threatened me with violence and I had to stop the trip and tell him to get out of my car,” said Singh. “I called Uber and 911 and

in the end received nothing for the trip because I didn’t complete it. That’s just not right. This is why we fight.”

Other drivers who pick up passengers at Bradley also voiced their frustrations on not having adequate restrooms for ride-share drivers who have to wait in a designated lot more than a mile from the terminals.

“Often times we’re left waiting at the airport for over an hour or even longer,” said Mohamed Beltagy, an Uber

driver from Mystic who has been driving for over a year. “If we need to use the bathrooms at the airport that takes us out of our designated area and then Uber kicks us out of line in the app. We should be able to utilize a restroom if we need one in the area Bradley assigns us but right now we can’t do that.”

The guild, which previously forced Uber to add a tipping option in the app and won the nation’s first minimum wage for Uber and Lyft drivers in

New York City, is now advocating for drivers to have the right to collective bargain.

“Drivers deserve to have a voice,” Rana said. “We want to be able to sit at the table with these companies and actually negotiate. Right now we can’t do that and so we rely on legislative wins. We want to give drivers the ability to feel heard.”

Connecticut lawmakers shelved a bill last year that aimed to establish a novel system of collective bargain-

ing rights for gig workers. The proposal had union support but provoked pushback from some in organized labor. The proposal aimed to set up negotiations between representatives of gig workers and multiple companies over industrywide recommended rules, without making the workers employees.

“We think we can get a bill to pass,” Rana said. “We have the support in the legislature. It’s just a matter of time. We will keep fighting.”

CONNECTICUT

CORONAVIRUS
IN CONNECTICUT

Yale study: Virus may be endemic in 2 years

At that stage, model shows
15.4% of people would be
susceptible at any time

Staff Report

A new Yale study has found COVID-19 will eventually transition to endemic status possibly within two years, according to the university.

The researchers used rats, which, like humans, “are also susceptible to coronaviruses,” to help study when and how COVID-19 might become endemic, according to the university.

“By collecting data on coronaviral reinfection rates among rats, (researchers) were able to model the potential trajectory of COVID-19,” the university said.

The study was published July 5 in the journal PNAS Nexus.

The university said in a statement that animals such as pigs and chickens ‘live with endemic coronaviruses, too, and a key factor identified in the spread of animal and human coronaviruses alike is their tendency to evoke what’s known as non-sterilizing immunity.”

“It means that initially there is fairly good immunity, but relatively quickly that wanes,” Caroline Zeiss, a professor of comparative medicine at Yale School of Medicine and senior author of the study, said, in the statement. “And so even if an animal or a person has been vaccinated or infected, they will likely become susceptible again.”

The university said Zeiss and her colleagues studied the way a coronavirus similar to one that causes the common cold in humans was transmitted through rat populations.

“The team modeled the exposure scenario to resemble human exposures in the United States, where a portion of the population is vaccinated against COVID-19 and where people continue to face natural exposure to SARS-CoV-2,” the statement said. “They also reproduced the different *types* of exposure experienced by people in the U.S., with some animals exposed through close contact with an infected rat (high risk of infection) and others exposed by being placed in a cage once inhabited by an infected rat (low risk of infection).”

“Infected animals contracted an upper respiratory tract infection and then recovered. After three to four months, the rats were then reorganized and re-exposed to the virus,” the statement said. “The rates of reinfection showed that natural exposure yielded a mix of immunity levels, with those exposed to more virus through close contact having stronger immunity, and those placed in a contaminated cage (and therefore exposed to lower amounts of the virus) having higher rates of reinfection.”

According to Zeiss, the study showed “with natural infection, some individuals will develop better immunity than others. People also need vaccination, which is offered through a set dose and generates predictable immunity. But with both vaccination and natural exposure, the population accumulates broad immunity that pushes the virus toward endemic stability.”

The university said she and her team “then used this data to inform mathematical models, finding that the median time it could take for SARS-CoV-2 to become endemic in the United States is 1,437 days, or just under four years from the start of the pandemic in March 2020,” but also noted this is the median time predicted by the model, and it could longer to reach endemic stage nor did it account for mutations that “could make SARS-CoV-2 more harmful.”

After it reaches endemic phase, according to the model, 15.4% of the population would be susceptible to infection at any given time, according to the university.

“The virus is constantly going to be circulating,” Zeiss said, also in the statement. So it will be important to keep more vulnerable groups in mind: “We can’t assume that once we reach the endemic state that everybody is safe.”

“Coronaviruses are very unpredictable, so there could be a mutation that makes it more pathogenic,” said Zeiss. “The more likely scenario, though, is that we see an increase in transmissibility and probable decrease in pathogenicity.” That means the virus would be easily transmitted between people but less likely to cause severe illness, much like the common cold, according to the university.

The university also noted endemic stability in the United States depends on “what happens to the virus elsewhere.”

“We are one global community,” Zeiss said. “We don’t know where else these mutations are going to arise. Until we reach endemic stability around the entire globe, we are vulnerable here to having our U.S. endemic stability disrupted by introduction of a new variant.

The study was funded by the National Science Foundation.

Consultant on New London pier project fined \$10K by ethics office

Firm allegedly gave
gifts to Port Authority
officials in 2017, 2019

By Keith M. Phaneuf
CT Mirror

The Office of State Ethics fined a New York-based consulting firm \$10,000 for providing more than \$3,000 in food and gifts — including hockey tickets and an overnight stay at a Greenwich club — to Connecticut Port Authority officials in 2017 and 2019.

Seabury Maritime, a subsidiary of Seabury Capital Group, provided some of those gifts while pursuing a business relationship with the authority, and others after securing a contract to help find an operator for state pier in New London, according to the consent order signed by Seabury and the state ethics office.

Seabury also has come under fire this year from another state agency. The State Contracting Standards Board concluded in February that a \$523,000 “success” fee the port authority paid to Seabury in May 2018 is eerily similar to the “finder’s fees” scandal that sent a former state treasurer to prison in 2001.

“Private companies that seek to engage state and quasi-public agencies for contracts must understand that fostering good will with state officials and employees cannot involve provision of impermissible gifts,” said Peter Lewandowski, executive director of the ethics office. “Violation of the Code’s gift laws will be forcefully prosecuted by the Office of State Ethics.”

Between May and August 2017, Seabury provided gifts totaling around \$800, the ethics office wrote in a statement. This included “food, drinks and a leather personal accessory to a CPA employee and the employee’s spouse at a charity event” in May of that year, and more food and drinks and an overnight stay at a Greenwich club to the same couple in August. Food and drinks also went to a member of the authority’s governing board in August, according to the state ethics office.

The Office of State Ethics does not identify people mentioned in a consent order who are not the focus of that order. The office also does not comment on whether other mentioned people are themselves the focus of another investigation.

In 2019, after securing a contract to advise the authority, Seabury Capitol provided another \$2,300 in gifts, according to the report. These included food, drinks and a leather handbag to an authority employee and that employee’s spouse in April, and food, drinks and National Hockey League tickets to two authority employees in May 2019.

The ethics office added that “prior to the initiation of this ethics matter, Seabury received reimbursement from the recipients for the cost of the hockey tickets and the May 9, 2019, food and drinks.”

But because these items weren’t reimbursed within 30 days of receipt, as required by state law, the gifts still were a violation. The other gifts from Seabury in 2017 and 2019 were not reimbursed by the recipi-

ents.

State law “prohibits any person from knowingly giving, directly or indirectly, gifts to a public official or state employee when that person is doing business or seeking to do business with that public official or state employee’s agency or department.”

The authority hired Seabury in May 2018 to help with the search for an operator of the state pier in New London. The new operator would help transform the pier into the staging area for a major, offshore wind-to-energy project.

The authority issued a \$700,000 payment to Seabury that included a \$523,000 “success” or reward fee — and that happened three months after Henry Juan III of Greenwich, who was a managing director with Seabury, had resigned from the authority board.

The state’s contracting board adopted a report in February that compared this success fee with the “finder’s fees” the General Assembly banned more than two decades ago. That ban followed a scandal in the late 1990s that sent then-state Treasurer Paul Silvester to prison.

Silvester, a West Hartford Republican, was sentenced to 21 months in prison after admitting he had accepted kickbacks, often referred to as “finder’s fees,” in exchange for steering investment of state-controlled pension funds.

Jeffrey Erickson, who signed Tuesday’s ethics consent order as acting chief financial officer for Seabury, could not be

reached for comment Tuesday.

Scott Bates of Stonington, who chaired the port authority’s Board of Directors from 2017 through May 2019, also could not be reached.

Lamont appointed one of his chief economic development officials, David Kooris, in July 2019 to chair the authority board and to overhaul operations.

“This is an unfortunate reminder of issues that occurred under prior leadership,” Kooris wrote in a statement. “... Under new leadership, beginning in late 2019, the authority performed a complete overhaul of its policies and procedures. With the assistance of the Office of Policy and Management and outside auditors, the authority updated its ethics policies and all employees and board members now receive annual ethics training and certifications. Contractors are similarly made aware of the proper protocols.”

Kooris added that “authority stakeholders should be reassured that matters from the past will be thoroughly and transparently investigated.”

Besides the state, other major “stakeholders” in this matter include Gateway Terminal — the firm hired to develop state pier — and Eversource and Ørsted North America, which will develop the wind farm.

The pier project, priced three years ago at \$93 million, also has been criticized for several cost hikes which now place the price tag at more than \$255 million. Connecticut’s share now stands at \$178 million, with \$77.5 million coming from private partners.

Branford man has shot his first movie

Combat-vet drama
filmed in New Haven
area opens today

By Susan Dunne
Hartford Courant

“Northern Shade,” a combat-vet movie shot in the New Haven area by Branford filmmaker Christopher Rucinski, will open in the Elm City today.

The movie is about Justin, a former soldier who served in Afghanistan and now lives aimlessly on a boat on the Quinnipiac River. Justin discovers his brother Charlie has been recruited by an extremist militia in the Quiet Corner and attempts to lure him away.

The movie was written, produced, directed and edited by Rucinski. The cinematographer is Grzegorz Gill. The military adviser is Kyle A. Berg, a combat vet who served three years in Afghanistan. The three men were classmates at Branford High School.

“Northern Shade” is Rucinski’s feature directorial debut. He wrote a script about combat vets, then asked Berg to read it. With Berg’s experience and input, Rucinski revised the script.

“The main story is how vets get solicited for militias all the time because of their military training. That’s an interesting thing that is still happening now. No matter how extreme the militia is, they want people with military training. Vets are always propositioned online on Facebook and other social media to join militias,” he said.

The Connecticut premiere is at Bow Tie Criterion Cinemas, 86 Temple St. It will be shown again July 14 and 21. All screenings are at 8 p.m. Rucinski will do a Q&A at all three screen-



Jesse Gavin plays the lead role in “Northern Shade,” which was filmed in the New Haven area. **WORKING MEMORY PICTURE COMPANY/COURTESY**

ings. Gill will join him at today’s screening and Berg will be at the July 14 and 21 screenings. Admission is \$10.

“Northern Shade” was filmed in Branford locations including Stony Creek Quarry, Shoreline Trolley Museum, ZuWaiick Sawmill and Trinity Church, as well as Quinnipiac River Marina in New Haven, Beach Pond in Voluntown, a Guilford gas station and several private homes. The combat flashback scenes were shot in Sylmar, California.

After New Haven, Rucinski will screen the film at the Woods Hole Film Festival on Cape Cod on Aug. 4 at 7:45 p.m. Then he will head home to Los Angeles and rejoin his job in the editorial department of “Indiana Jones 5.”

A love for movies

Rucinski, 36, has loved movies all his life. “In high school I worked two jobs, both film related. I worked at Hoyt’s Cinema in Branford ... and at Tommy K’s video store,” he said. A class in high school gave him a more in-depth appreciation for cinema.

“Chuck Reale taught film

studies at Branford High. I loved that class. It was the first time I looked at film from a more academic viewpoint,” he said. “My jobs were good because I had access to a lot of movies. I was able to rent any movie we were talking about.”

He also played the bass and went to Emerson College in Boston to study music production and visual and media art. Film won out, and Rucinski fell in love with picture editing.

“I did a semester in L.A. to create a network out there,” he said.

After graduating, he worked for the New England Patriots as a video editor. Then, during a company-wide layoff following the 2008 economic downturn, he was docked down to two days a week. “There was no worse or better time to go to L.A.,” he said.

At first in L.A., Rucinski had landscaping jobs, including some work at celebrity homes.

“I learned how to plant tomatoes in Pink’s garden. I helped install a drainage system for Ed Begley Jr.,” he said.

After a few months, an older Emerson grad, Michael McCusker, came back from a location shoot, answered

Rucinski’s message and helped him get work in films.

Since then, Rucinski has worked in the editorial department for several films, including “Bad Boys for Life,” “Jack Reacher: Never Go Back,” “Get On Up,” “The Wolverine,” “Captain America: The First Avenger,” “Knight and Day,” “War for the Planet of the Apes” and “Ford v Ferrari.” The latter film won McCusker an Oscar for film editing.

During his “Northern Shade” rewrites, COVID hit. As per the film industry’s COVID protocols, Rucinski had to remove almost every scene that required extras.

“We had bar scenes and restaurant scenes. We took them out. Only one scene in the movie has extras, filmed at Trinity Church,” he said.

His bosses at “Indiana Jones 5” let Rucinski take a break from his job to show his movie at film festivals. At the Phoenix Film Festival, it won best screenplay. At the Poppy Jasper Film Festival in Gilroy, California, it won best feature.

Rucinski wouldn’t say what the total budget was, but said it was a “micro-budget, which usually implies under \$200,000.” About \$20,000 of that was crowd-funded.

Rucinski hopes to get the film into other festivals and land a distribution deal that includes a limited theatrical run, showing in theaters in New York and L.A.

He arranged the New Haven screenings because “it’s important to me that Connecticut people are able to see it on the big screen.

“Anyone who knows geography of New Haven will recognize most of the movie,” he said.

Susan Dunne can be reached at sdunne@courant.com.

Hartford adds another outdoor concert series

Six free shows to be
held outside Old State
House on Thursdays

By Christopher Arnott
Hartford Courant

Hartford is welcoming another new concert series, making for one of the most musical summers in the city in recent memory.

The Hartford Live series offers six free concerts on the lawn outside the Old State House on Thursday nights at 6 p.m. from Aug. 4 through Sept. 15. The events will also feature food trucks and local vendors.

Bands for the first three Thursdays have been announced: Jamaican reggae icon Burning Spear on Aug. 4; the Hartford-based funk ensemble West End Blend on Aug. 11; and a double bill of the Massachusetts jam/groove act Neighbor and Chicago-rooted contemporary funk/soul singer/songwriter Neal Francis on Aug. 18. Future bookings will be announced on goodworksllive.com.

Hartford Mayor Luke Bronin announced the series Wednesday afternoon, establishing it as a multiyear partnership between the city and local concert promoters GoodWorks

Entertainment, which books the Infinity Hall concert halls in Hartford and Norfolk.


“After two years of pandemic disruptions and closed offices, the beat is back in Hartford and this new Hartford Live series is just one more way that we’re building on that energy,” Bronin said in a statement. “We’re kicking the series off this year, but it will continue next year and beyond as a new Hartford summer tradition.”

Hartford Live comes on the heels of the new Bonanza festival earlier this month, a fully rejuvenated outdoor Greater Hartford Festival of Jazz happening July 14 to 17, and a slew of returning

outdoor concert series, from the Hartford Symphony Orchestra’s Talcott Mountain Music Series in Simsbury to the Hartford Jazz Society’s Paul Brown Monday Night Jazz series in Bushnell Park.

It also joins two other live music series at the Old State House: the Friday Night Summer Concert Series (which runs through early October) as well as the bands scheduled to play during the weekly farmer’s markets on Fridays from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Christopher Arnott can be reached at carnott@courant.com.



PUBLIC NOTICES

PUBLIC HEARING – BRISTOL, CT
SALE OF CITY OWNED LAND

In accordance with the State Statutes and the Real Estate Committee acting on behalf of the City Council as authorized on June 14, 2022, will hold a Public Hearing on Tuesday, July 19, 2022 at 4:50 p.m. in the Police Complex, 2nd Floor, Meeting Room 1, 131 North Main Street, Bristol, Connecticut. Interested parties are invited to speak in favor of or against the following proposal:

- The sale of Revised Lot #8 located in the Southeast Bristol Business Park.

ATTEST:
Susan Tyler
Chairperson, Real Estate Committee
7242644

Legal Notice
Town of Cromwell and Cromwell Fire District

Legal Notice is Hereby given that all Motor Vehicle tax bills and the first Installment of Real Estate and Personal Property Tax Bills on the 2021 Grand List will be delinquent after August 1, 2022. Interest will be charged at 1.5 % per Month beginning with the Due Date of July 1, 2022. A Minimum interest of \$2.00 is charged for each delinquent Town and Fire District Bill. Office hours Monday - Friday 8:00 A.M. to 4:00 P.M. Doug Sienna, CCMC
Tax Collector
6/24, 7/7, 7/27/2022 7226297

LEGAL NOTICE
PUBLIC HEARING
TOWN OF CROMWELL ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS

The Cromwell Zoning Board of Appeals will hold a Public Hearing and Meeting at 6:30 pm on Tuesday, July 12, 2022 in the Council Chambers at the Cromwell Town Hall at 41 West Street on the following item:

- Application #22-03: Request for Variance from Section 2.2.B Bulk Requirements of the Zoning Regulations (Side Yard Setback and total Aggregate Side Yard) to allow for the construction of a balcony on the side of the house 6 River Park Drive. John Paul Golino is the Applicant and the Owner.

At this hearing interested parties may appear and be heard and written testimony received. The application is on file in the Planning and Development Department office at 41 West Street, Cromwell, Connecticut.

Joseph Morin
Chairman

Dated in Cromwell, Connecticut this 27th day of July 2022
6/30 & 7/7/22 7241284

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF Steven H. Lepak (22-00568)

The Hon. Michael A. Carrier, Judge of the Court of Probate, District of Berlin Probate Court, by decree dated July 1, 2022, ordered that all claims must be presented to the fiduciary at the address below. Failure to promptly present any such claim may result in the loss of rights to recover on such claim.

Susan I. Meagher, Chief Clerk

The fiduciary is:

Peter R. Lepak
c/o J. DAVID MORRISSEY, J. DAVID MORRISSEY, 220 MAIN ST., FARMINGTON, CT 06032

July 7, 2022 7245338

NOTICE TO CREDITORS


ESTATE OF Clara T. Samojedny, AKA Claire T. Samojedny (22-00370)

The Hon. Michael A. Carrier, Judge of the Court of Probate, District of Berlin Probate Court, by decree dated July 1, 2022, ordered that all claims must be presented to the fiduciary at the address below. Failure to promptly present any such claim may result in the loss of rights to recover on such claim.

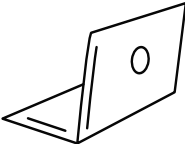
Susan I. Meagher, Chief Clerk

The fiduciary is:

DAVID FRANCIS WEBER, 1654 NORTH BENSON ROAD, FAIRFIELD, CT 06824




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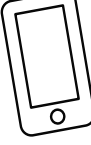
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Property of the Week

SUNDAYS IN CTHOME & Real Estate

Hartford Courant

Origin of the Black Death

DNA from bodies in a cemetery shows researchers starting point for plague that devastated Eurasia

By **Gina Kolata**
The New York Times

Where and when did the Black Death originate? The question has been asked for centuries and led to heated debate among historians.

Now, a group of researchers reports that it has found the answer in the pulp of teeth from people buried in the 14th century.

Based on their analysis of the preserved genetic material, the researchers report that the Black Death arrived in 1338 or 1339 near Issyk-Kul, a lake in a mountainous area just west of China in what is now Kyrgyzstan. The plague first infected people in a small, nearby settlement of traders eight years before it devastated Eurasia, killing 60% of the population.

The investigation was led by Wolfgang Haak and Johannes Krause of the Max Planck Institutes for Evolutionary Anthropology and the Science of Human History in Germany as well as Philip Slavin of the University of Stirling in Scotland, who described their findings in the journal *Nature*.

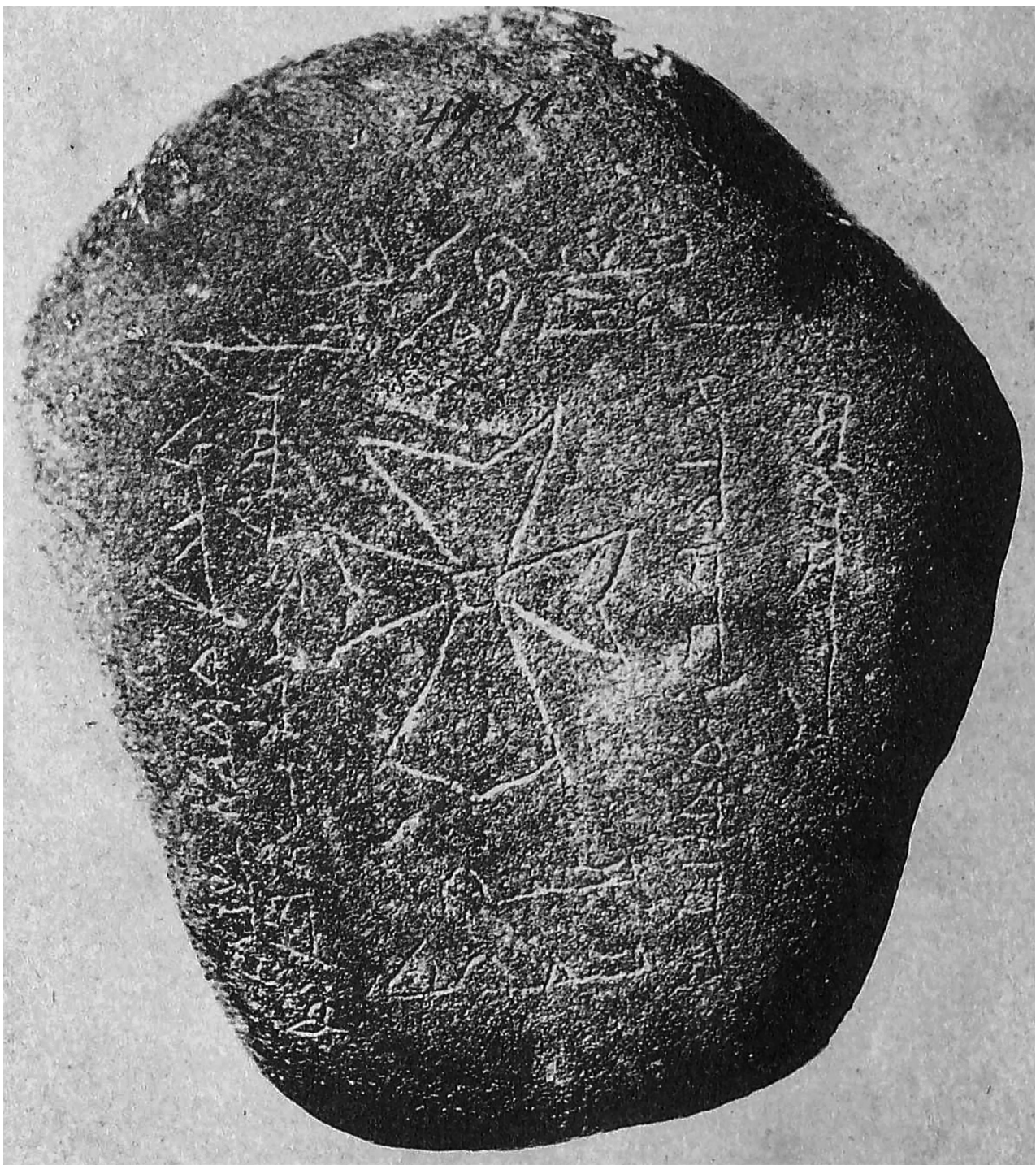
What was known as the Black Death — named after black spots that appeared on victims' bodies — is caused by a bacterium, *Yersinia pestis*, that is carried by fleas that live on rodents. The disease is still present today, carried by rodents on every continent except Australia. But infections are rare because hygiene is better. Infections are easily cured with antibiotics.

The 14th-century plague was actually the second large *Yersinia pestis* epidemic — the first was the Plague of Justinian in the sixth century, said Mary Fissell, a medical historian at Johns Hopkins University. But the Black Death is the best known and is considered one of the deadliest epidemics in human history.

Its terrors were chronicled by Giovanni Boccaccio, an Italian writer and poet who lived through the plague when it struck Florence. The disease, he wrote, “showed its first signs in men and women alike by means of swellings either in the groin or under the armpits, some of which grew to the size of an ordinary apple and others to the size of an egg, and the people called them buboes,” which became known as “signs of impending death.”

Historians traced the epidemic's path — it apparently began in China or near the western border of China and moved along trade routes to Europe, North Africa and the Middle East.

But Monica Green, a medical historian and independent scholar who was not involved in the new paper, noted that historians would never be able to answer the question



A headstone, written in Syriac and dating to the 14th century, reads in part, “This is the tomb of the believer Sanmaq. He died of pestilence.” Researchers report that the Black Death arrived near an area just west of China. **A.S. LEYBIN PHOTOS**



Excavations at the Kara-Djigach site in Kyrgyzstan in 1886, where plague victims might have been buried in 1338 or 1339.

they raised: Was it really *Yersinia pestis* that caused this massive pandemic?

“We hit a wall. We are historians and we deal with documents,” Green said.

She vividly remembers meeting a paleopathologist 20 years ago who had been studying leprosy, which leaves visible marks on skeletons.

“When will you do plague?” Green asked. She said the paleopathologist replied that they couldn’t study plague because a disease that kills people so

quickly does not leave any traces on bone.

Now that impasse has been overcome. The search for the plague’s origin “is like a detective story,” said Fissell, who was not involved in the new study. “Now they have really good evidence of the scene of the crime.”

The hunt goes back more than a decade, to when the group that led the latest study stunned archaeologists with their report that they could find plague bacteria DNA in the teeth

of skeletons.

That study involved plague victims in London.

Fourteenth-century Londoners knew the Black Death was coming, so they consecrated a graveyard in advance to be prepared for its victims. The bodies were exhumed and are now kept in the Museum of London. The situation was ideal because not only were these victims from a plague graveyard, but the date of their death was known.

“As an epidemiological case study, it is perfect,”

Green said. “The technical skill that has gone into this work has just been amazing.”

Since the London study, the group has analyzed genetic material from plague victims at other sites, building a DNA family tree of the plague bacteria variants. It and other researchers reported that the tree had a trunk and then, all at once, seemed to explode into four branches of *Yersinia pestis* strains whose descendants are found today in rodents.

They called the event the Big Bang and began a quest to find when and where it occurred.

Historians proposed various dates, ranging from the 10th to the 14th century.

Slavin, a latecomer to the group that analyzed plague victims in Kyrgyzstan, said one of his dreams was to solve the riddle of the Black Death’s origins.

“I was aware of two Christian cemeteries in Kyrgyzstan and started delving,” he said.

To his astonished delight, he found that hundreds of gravestones were precisely dated. Some had inscriptions saying, in an old language, Syriac, that the person had died of “pestilence.” And the population’s death rate had soared in the year those people died.

“That brought it to my attention because it wasn’t just any year,” Slavin said. It was 1338, “just seven or eight years before the Black Death came to Europe.”

“We can’t ask for much more than having tombstones with the year,” he said.

The researchers found plague DNA in the teeth of three individuals whose tombstones said had they died of “pestilence.”

The group also reports that the rodents that spread the bacteria to those victims were marmots. Marmots in that area today have fleas that carry a type of *Yersinia pestis* that appears to be derived directly from the ancestral strain.

And the researchers report that the strain in Kyrgyzstan is from the trunk that exploded into four strains. It is the start of the Big Bang, the group proposes.

If they are correct, Fissell said, it seems that the Big Bang happened right before the Black Death in Eurasia, indicating that the plague’s spread was most likely through trade routes and not, as some historians have suggested, through military actions a century earlier.

Green and other historians have proposed that the Big Bang happened when Mongols in the early 13th century spread the bacteria. But if that had been the case, the bacteria in Kyrgyzstan would have been from one of the branches and not the ancestral strain.

“Those battles in the 1200s are pretty irrelevant,” Fissell said.

Green said she was convinced that the group had found plague victims in Kyrgyzstan. But she said the evidence available now was insufficient to justify its bold claims.

“Stay tuned,” Green said, adding she expected that more evidence might emerge.

For now, she said, the detective work has nailed down an important clue.

The work, she added, “puts a pin in the map, with a date.”

Study: Muting your phone may cause more stress, not less



HealthDay News

Are you plagued by FOMO — “fear of missing out”?

Silencing your smartphone may not be the stress-buster you think it is.

That’s the takeaway from a new study that found many folks check their phones a lot more when they’re set to mute or vibrate than when they beep and ring.

“Without any clear ‘buzz’ or sound from their phones, individuals with high FOMO might use their phones even more,” said study author Mengqi

Liao, a doctoral candidate in communications studies at Penn State University.

For the study, 42% of 138 iPhone users chose vibration-only mode; 8.7% were on silent mode, and the rest kept their ringers on for four straight days. Before the start, people completed a survey to see if they had FOMO, and they activated the Screen Time tool on their phones so they could report exact data to researchers.

Those who muted their phones clocked the highest time on social media and checked their phone more often than participants who didn’t silence

their device. Phone screen time was not only higher in those people with FOMO, but muting notifications also increased feelings of stress.

“Instead of muting or disabling all notifications from their phones to avoid distractions, users with high FOMO could customize their notifications setting and selectively disable some notifications,” Liao suggested.

This may mean enabling notifications from close family and friends to alleviate the anxiety, she said.

The findings were recently published online in the journal *Computers*

in Human Behavior.

Therapists often tell people to turn their phones off so they can be more present in their day-to-day lives, but this study suggests that may not be the best course of action for some folks, said Thea Gallagher, a clinical assistant professor of psychiatry at NYU Langone Health in New York City.

“The data is pointing to something different if you have FOMO: You will actually be compulsively checking your phone even more because you think you are missing notifications,” she said.

CELEBRITIES

Downey promotes clean energy jobs

From news services

The Energy Department is teaming with actor Robert Downey Jr. to recruit up to 1,000 new workers focused on climate change and clean energy.

Energy Secretary Jennifer Granholm on Wednesday released a video with the actor encouraging applicants to join the department's "Clean Energy Corps" and take on jobs aimed at accelerating deployment of clean energy such as wind and solar power.

Participants will help build thousands of miles of electric transmission lines to carry wind and solar power and take on other jobs to research, develop and deploy ways to produce energy while cutting planet-warming greenhouse gas emissions, Granholm said. The new job corps is part of \$62 billion awarded to the Energy Department under a 2021 infrastructure law.

In the animated video, Downey says viewers may know him from one of his "many day jobs" as a billionaire superhero in "Iron Man" or "world's greatest detective," Sherlock Holmes. "But now I've got this sweet new office over at the Department of Energy, and I've already been putting in some crazy hours helping out the Clean Energy Corps," Downey says. "I've been working with some amazing people on fantastic new solutions" to climate change.

Granholm, who also appears, tells Downey the Energy Department is "looking for folks to help us with pretty much everything," from scientists to IT specialists, civil engineers and electrical engineers.

The video is posted on the Energy Department's YouTube channel and will be featured on social media.



Robert Downey Jr., above, appears with the nation's energy secretary in a new video. GARETH CATTERMOLE/GETTY 2020

Santana 'doing well' after collapsing onstage: Guitar icon Carlos Santana collapsed onstage during a show in Michigan and was rushed to a hospital, later blaming the episode on forgetting to eat or drink water.

Santana, 74, was "doing well" Wednesday after being taken from his show in Clarkston, some 40 miles northwest of Detroit, to the emergency department at McLaren Clarkston on Tuesday, said manager Michael Vronis in a statement.

"Just taking it easy," Santana posted to Facebook just after midnight. "Forgot to eat and drink water so I dehydrated and passed out. Blessings and miracles to you all."

Santana was released during the night from the hospital.

Stewart to lead Academy museum: Film scholar Jacqueline Stewart has

been named the next director and president of the Academy Museum of Motion Pictures in Los Angeles. The organization's board of trustees said Wednesday that Stewart, who previously served as the museum's chief artistic and programming officer, would succeed Bill Kramer to guide the vision of the museum beginning July 18.

Kramer last week was named as the new CEO for the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences, the organization that puts on the Oscars.

July 7 birthdays: Band-leader Doc Severinsen is 95. Drummer Ringo Starr is 82. Actor Shelley Duvall is 73. Actor Roz Ryan is 71. Comedian Jim Gaffigan is 56. Singer Ricky Kinchen is 56. Actor Jorja Fox is 54. Actor Kirsten Vangsness is 50. Actor Berenice Bejo is 46. Comedian Luke Null is 32. Singer Ally Hernandez is 29.



ASK AMY

By Amy Dickinson
askamy@amydickinson.com Twitter@askingamy

Bounce back won't follow emotional cheating

Dear Amy: Six months ago, my fiancée and I split up after 13 years because of my emotional cheating.

I know what I did was wrong, and I've taken full responsibility for my actions.

She has lost all trust in me, which I completely understand. I love her, we have two children together, and I wish for nothing more than to work things out and move forward with our life together.

This is the second time we've split up.

I've noticed that I throw chaos into our relationship. I tend to drift away from the relationship when things get tough.

I admit that when I violated her trust, I was in a dark place emotionally.

I was depressed and unhappy. I didn't like the route our relationship was taking. We lacked communication (on both our parts) — but more from me.

We barely made any time to spend together, and when we did it would be either with the kids or a group of friends.

Can we bounce back from this? She says that things won't be the same. I understand why she believes that, but I know that we can find a way past this. She has said she is still in love with me. She wants to be with me, but she needs time and space and doesn't know how she can trust me again.

— Broken Trust

Dear Broken: You demonstrate impressive insight into what you believe is the root cause of your behavior.

Despite your insight, your behavior reflects an immature response to the

stress in your life. Children lash out and then blame their behavior on their feelings. Adults are supposed to take their insights and actually do something differently in order to have a different outcome next time.

You "throw chaos" into your relationship, and then disappear when things get tough. You help to create the problem and then you run away from the problem. This is classic "fight or flight" behavior, and you can change it.

Your children are being taught that they can't count on you.

"Bouncing back" is not in the cards. But you can rebuild your relationship and repair your family's life, as long as you are willing to put in the work.

Counseling would be helpful for you and the mother of your children. I also suggest that you start the process of dating her. If she is willing to see you, you should arrange child care, and you should start trying to reconnect.

You and your partner might benefit from sharing, "9 Steps to Heal Your Resentment and Reboot Your Marriage," by Tanja Pajevic (2014, Abbondanza Press).

Dear Amy: I'm an introvert and find it uncomfortable to participate in group discussions.

What bothers me is when someone in the group turns to me and blurts out loudly, "Smile, John!" or "How come you're so quiet?"

It usually derails the conversation with an awkward silence as the other group members stop talking to look at me.

I feel such remarks are not only rude, but commenting on another person's facial expression or demeanor in a group setting is hurtful.

I often feel angry and wish to verbally retaliate, but remain silent in the interest of peace.

What could you recommend I do?
— Quiet

Dear Quiet: You are right about how disrespectful it is to call out someone publicly and to comment on their demeanor or facial expression — unless this is done out of concern for the person's welfare.

As hard as it is for you to speak up during these moments, I wonder if you could say, "I'm quiet because — I'm listening." To someone who tells you to "smile," you could respond (privately, if that is preferable), "Please don't tell me to smile. It makes me uncomfortable."

Dear Amy: In response to "Wondering," she shouldn't send money to two young college grads she barely knows. Just a card is enough. Why do so many columnists think people need monetary recognition for nothing?

They'll be fine without your money.
— Being Real

Dear Being Real: I suggested that "Wondering" should only do what she wanted to do, but if she chose to send money, to keep the amount modest.

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Johnny Lozado in "Menudo: Forever Young," a documentary about the boy band. HBO MAX

TV REVIEW

'Menudo: Forever Young' brings legacy, dark side back to surface

By Caroline Framke
Variety

"Menudo: Forever Young" won't mark the first time that members of Latin America's iconic supergroup have tried to reveal the truth of what it took to be a part of it.

As the new docuseries from directors Angel Manuel Soto ("Charm City Kings") and Kristofer Rios ("Havana Skate Days") details again and again, each time more revealing than the last, Menudo alums have been speaking plainly for years about the exhaustion, neglect and sexual abuse they allegedly suffered under the thumb of Edgardo Diaz, the man who masterminded the boy band.

The series spans four episodes — two of which premiered at the Tribeca Festival, and all of which are now streaming on HBO Max. Diaz, per the series' omnipresent disclaimer, did not respond to the filmmakers' request for comment or an interview.

While some music historians and journalists contextualize the rapid rise and widespread influence of the group, much of the insight comes from former bandmates. Since

Diaz infamously cycled out Menudo members once they hit puberty, the group encompassed more than 30 boys over 20 years. So it's to the docuseries' credit that it includes men from almost every stage of Menudo's lifespan. (Ricky Martin, the most famous graduate, only appears in video flashbacks.)

There's so much more to say about Menudo's history than these episodes have time to explore. Some threads, like gay band members coming to terms with their sexuality in an environment built to exploit it, require more nuance than their glancing mentions can afford. But by the end, it's devastatingly clear that many of these men have been waiting their whole lives not just to share their side of the Menudo story, but also to understand it themselves.

In 1991, several members resigned en masse to come forward about their experiences. Roy Rossello, interviewed here, even went on a Brazilian talk show with his father to confront Diaz, face-to-face, about his part in perpetuating both physical and mental abuse; that Diaz managed to convince

the studio audience that the teenaged Rossello was nothing more than a money-grabbing opportunist feels especially galling, given the rest of the series' perspective and context. And yet at that point in time, "Forever Young" convincingly argues, Diaz's influence even beyond the Menudo machine was simply too big for kids to puncture.

Now, however, Diaz no longer heads up a multimedia empire, and the boys have since become men. For those who decided to participate, the reigning emotion surrounding this formative period in their lives isn't fear, but a pulsing, righteous anger.

What subsequently emerges — especially in the second half — is a damning portrait of greed run amok at the expense of children's welfare. What's most fascinating about it, though, is how none of these revelations are particularly new. The truth, as they say, is out there. What's changed, or at least what its directors and participants appear to hope has shifted in recent years, is that the group's fans might actually be willing to hear it.

How to watch: HBO Max

HOROSCOPES

Tarot.com

Aries (March 21-April 19): Those with authority might put a damper on fun at this time. You're likely in for a good day full of people from your life. Unfortunately, your boss or even the law could stop the fun. Don't tempt fate by doing something that could get you in trouble.

Taurus (April 20-May 20): An unexpected adventure could be ahead of you. There will likely be plenty of opportunities to increase your wealth and abundance. However, you might be sent on a journey that could throw you into a tizzy. Try not to stress during this time — it should all work out.

Gemini (May 21-June 20): You can't set rules for how others see you. The energy of the day can improve your charm, beauty and intuition, but you aren't able to control how others see you. Someone may spread a rumor, but you can choose how you react and hope others see you the way you want to be.

Cancer (June 21-July 22): It's okay to be emotional. Your feelings might be more easily expressed. You can have healing conversations with family, and they may show their vulnerable side to you. However, not everyone will have your sensitivity. Be gentle with yourself even when other people won't.

TODAY IN HISTORY

Associated Press

On July 7, 1930, construction began on Boulder Dam (later Hoover Dam).

In 1948, six female U.S. Navy reservists became the first women to be sworn in to the regular Navy.

Leo (July 23-Aug. 22): So much to do, so little time. You may have your schedule chock-full of things to do. In fact, it could be so full that you forget to take some medicine or skip a couple of meals, and then end up feeling terrible. Your biggest pitfall is likely to be your own health or energy, so make sure to care for yourself.

Virgo (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Safe bets should win out over big risks today. A small windfall of money could encourage you to spend, but your shopping spree can go wrong quickly. Practical expenses are good ways to direct this money, but gambling or spending it on luxury items may come back to bite you.

Libra (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Having fun and knowing when to be responsible are both important. Laughter and dancing may fill your hours, but those activities could be cut short. Your family might present an issue, so you may not want to let the party go on. Pay attention in case your assistance is needed.

Scorpio (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Emotional rest is encouraged at the moment. It's likely to be a low-key day where you get to enjoy peace and quiet. You might not have as much to do as usual, and it's okay to take some time for yourself. Information you receive later could frustrate you, so keep your plans flexible.

Sagittarius (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Being a social butterfly can be expensive today. In the whirlwind of all the fun that you're able to be a part of today, you might not realize how many times you're reaching into your wallet. Unexpected or forgotten bills could rear their ugly head later, so be aware of your budget and stay within its boundaries.

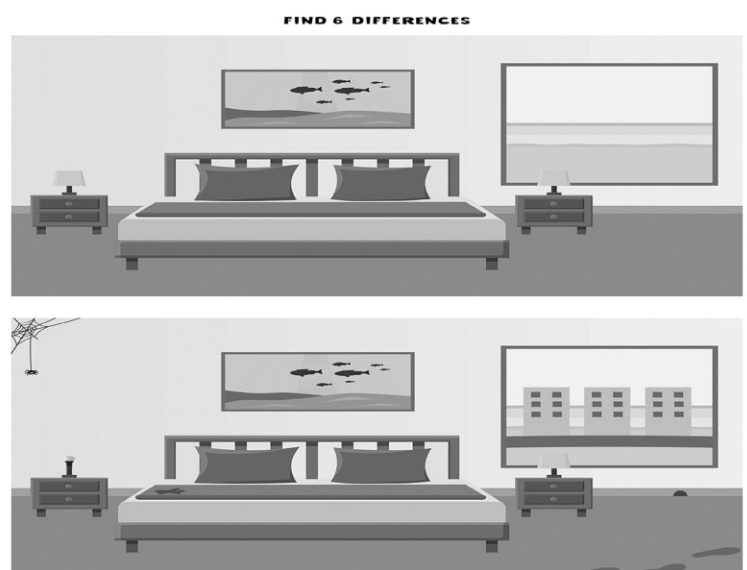
Capricorn (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): New career opportunities could be coming your way. You may have big job interviews or important work projects lined up for today. However, make sure that you're prepared, because cockiness could send you to the bottom. Stay humble and keep your ego out of interviews.

Aquarius (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Good times are likely coming your way, but worrying could stymie your fun. You're likely to feel more upbeat than normal, but later on, you get stuck in your head. Overthinking could ruin your perception of something positive. Don't let your worries skew fun memories.

Pisces (Feb. 19-March 20): It's okay if some aspects of your life only make sense to you. You may have recently accomplished something. Unfortunately, some people criticize what they don't understand, and they may not celebrate your victory. It can still be a win regardless of how it is received.

became the first British man in 77 years to win the Wimbledon title.

In 2016, Micah Johnson, a Black Army veteran who served in Afghanistan, opened fire on Dallas police, killing five officers in an act of vengeance for the fatal police shootings of Black men; the attack ended with Johnson being killed by a bomb delivered by a police robot.



Peanuts By Charles M. Schulz



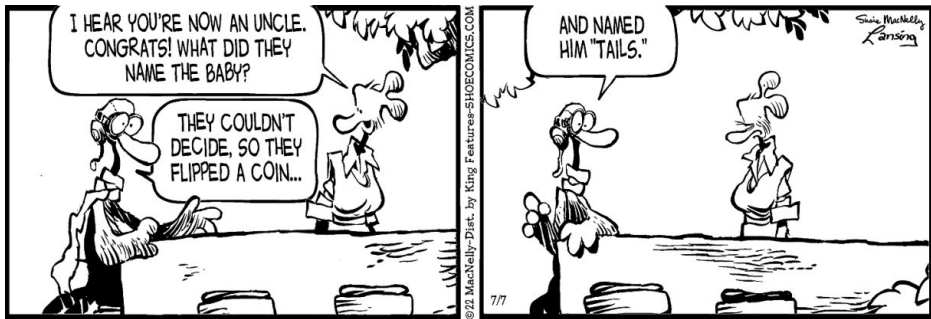
Classic Doonesbury By Garry Trudeau



Garfield By Jim Davis



Shoe By Gary Brookins & Susie MacNelly



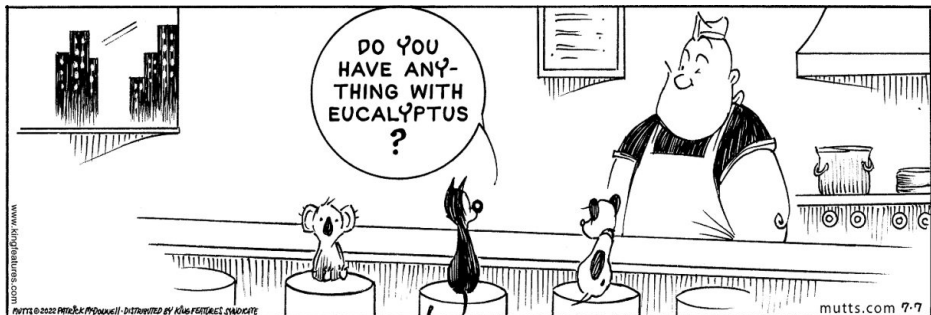
Dustin By Steve Kelley & Jeff Parker



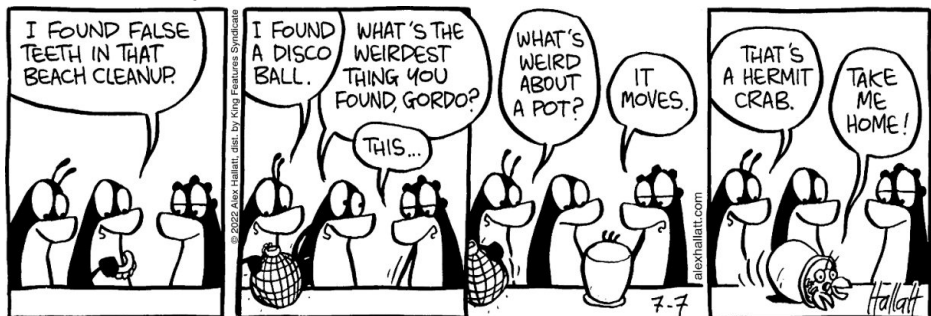
Pearls Before Swine By Stephan Pastis



Mutts By Patrick McDonnell



Arctic Circle By Alex Hallatt



Jump Start By Robb Armstrong



Get Fuzzy By Darby Conley



Blondie By Dean Young and John Marshall



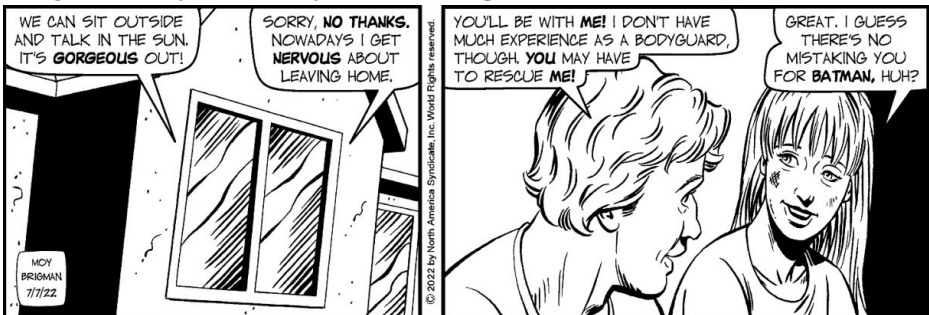
Dilbert By Scott Adams



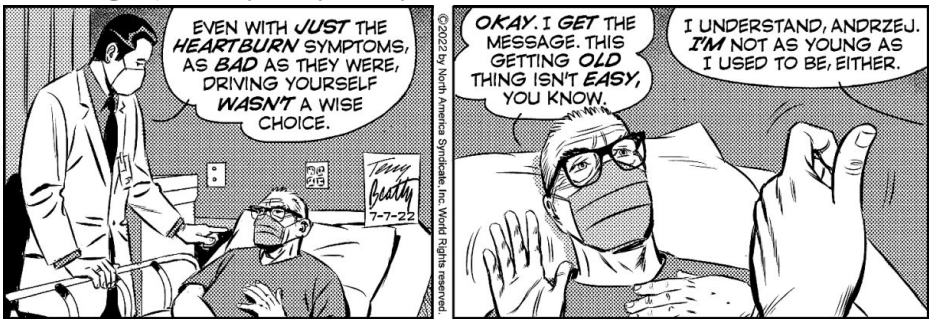
Gil Thorp By Neal Rubin and Frank McLaughlin



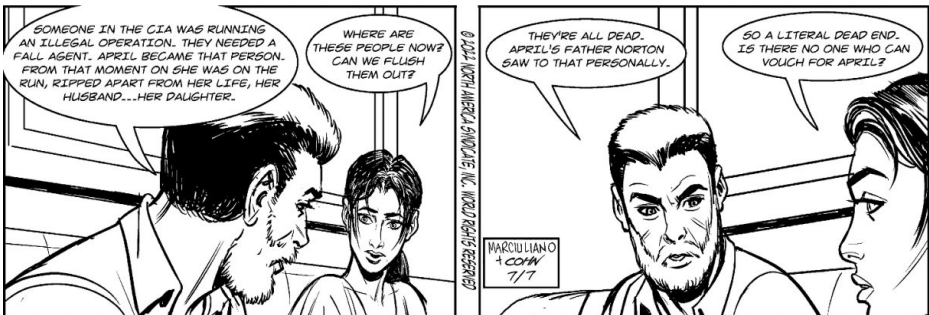
Mary Worth By Karen Moy and June Brigman



Rex Morgan, M.D. By Terry Beatty



Judge Parker By Woody Wilson and Mike Manley



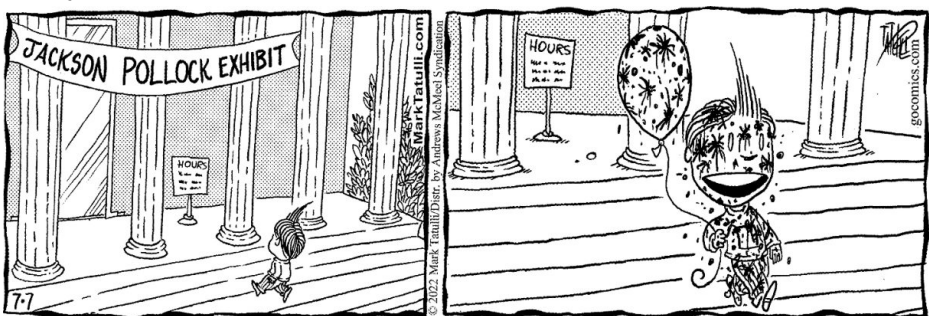
Baldo By Cantu and Castellanos



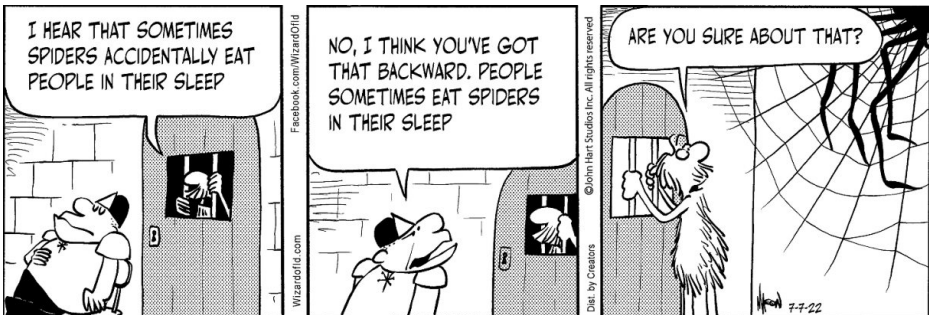
Funky Winkerbean By Tom Batiuk



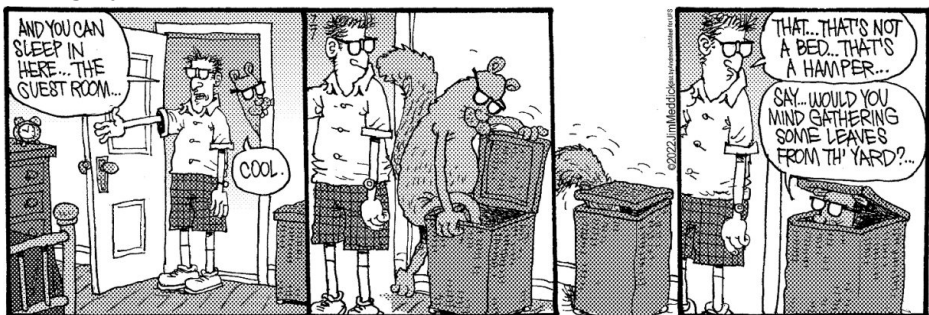
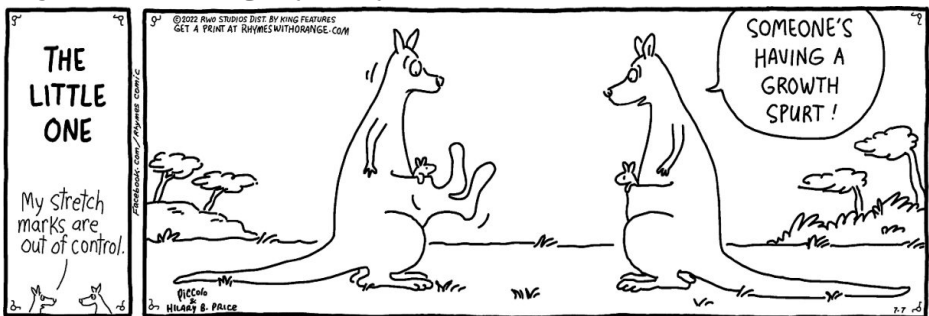
Lio By Mark Tatulli



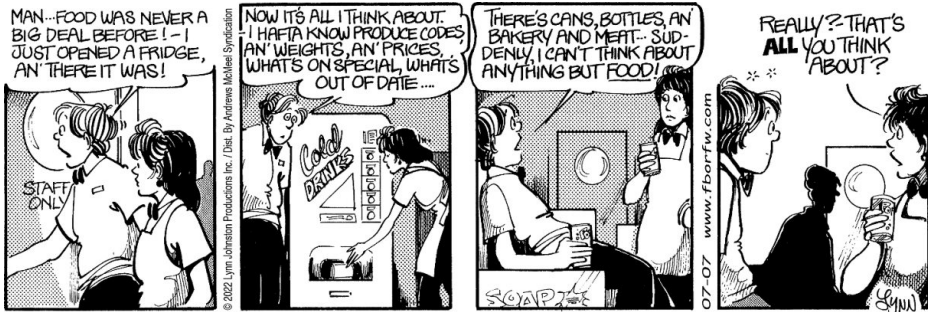
Wizard Of Id By Johnny Hart and Brant Parker



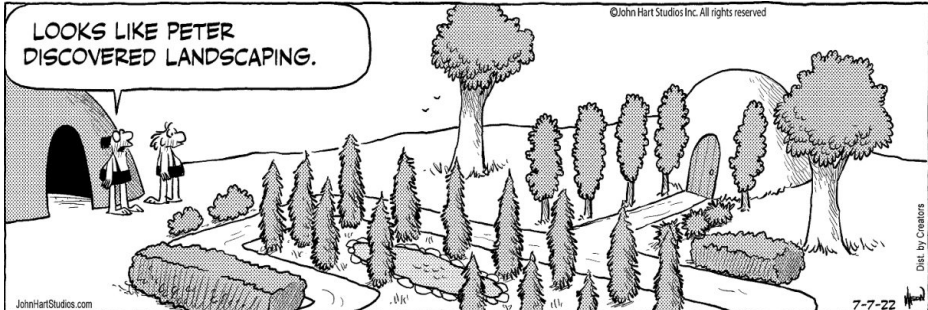
Rhymes With Orange By Hilary Price



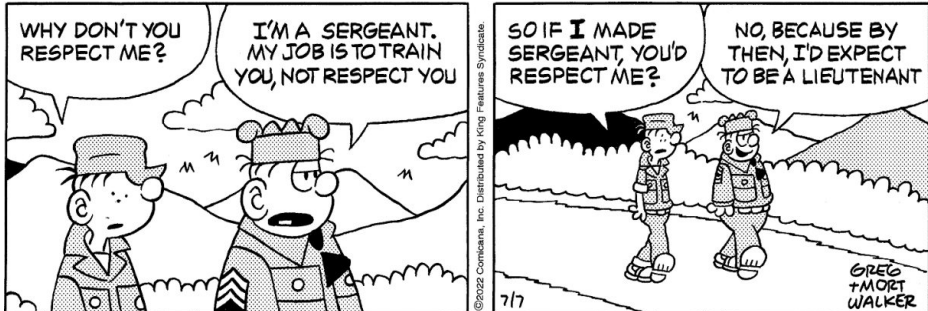
For Better Or For Worse By Lynn Johnston



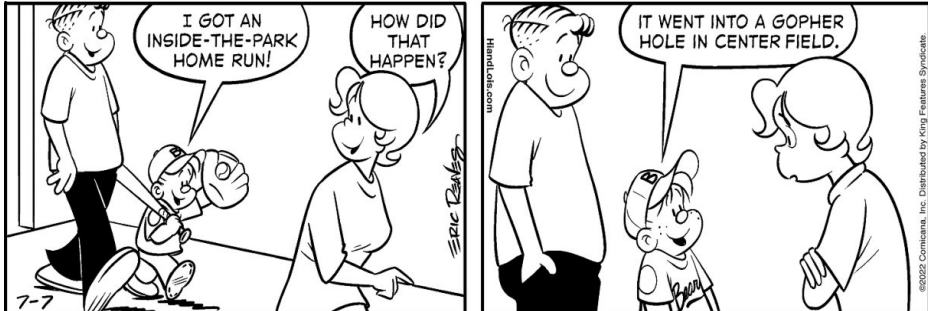
B.C. By Hart



Beetle Bailey by Mort, Greg & Brian Walker



Hi & Lois By Greg and Brian Walker and Chance Browne



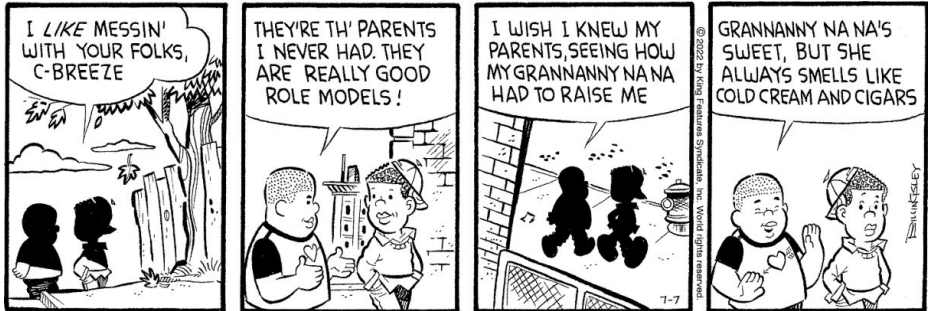
Hagar The Horrible By Chris Browne



Non Sequitur By Wiley Miller



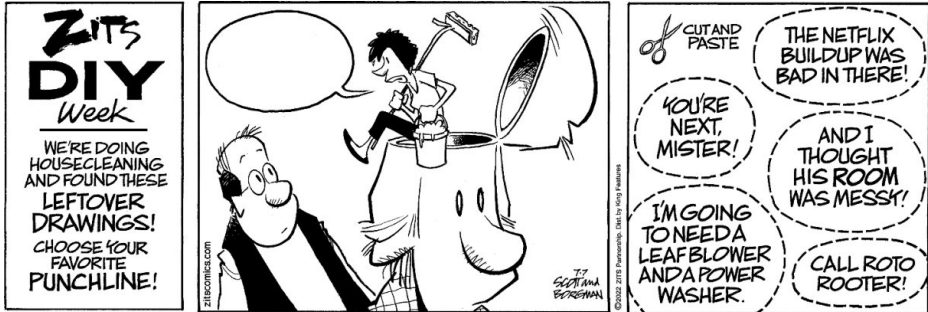
Curtis By Ray Billingsley



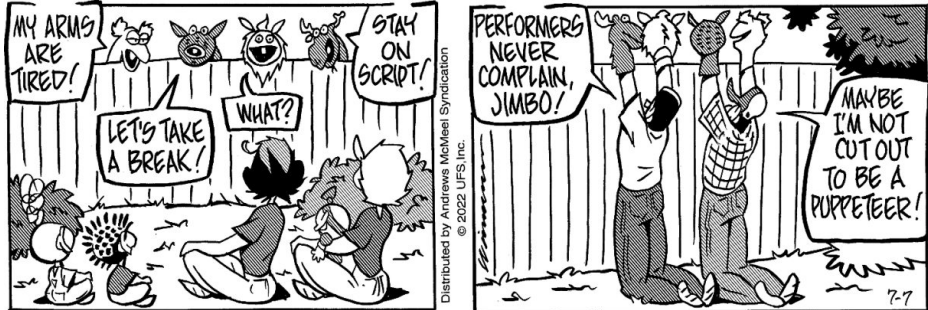
Pickles By Brian Crane



Zits By Jerry Scott and Jim Borgman



Rose Is Rose By Pat Brady and Don Wimmer



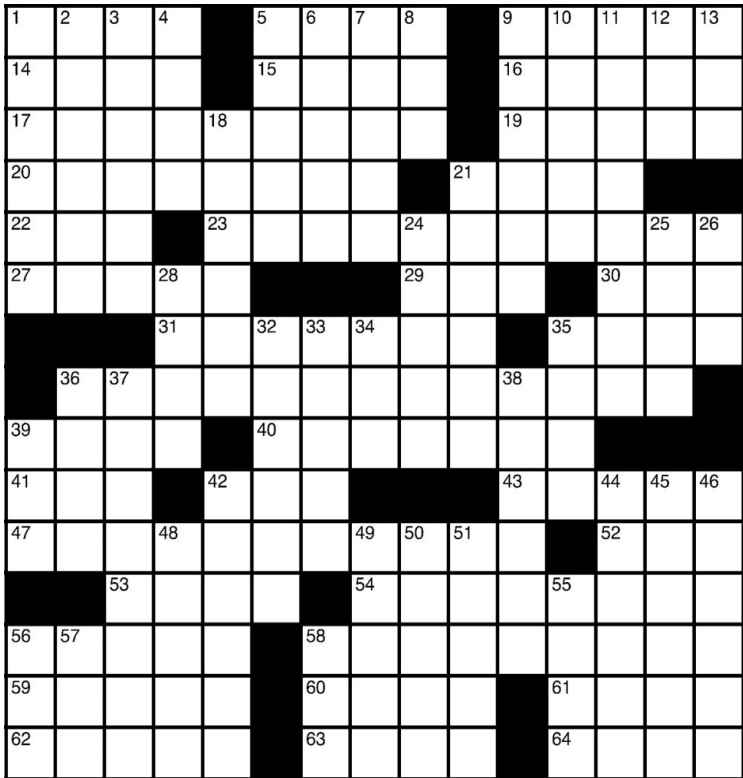
Mother Goose And Grimm By Mike Peters



CROSSWORD

EDITED BY RICH NORRIS AND JOYCE NICHOLS LEWIS

- Across**
- 1 Catch a glimpse of
 - 5 "___ Great Heights": single by The Postal Service
 - 9 Shelter org.
 - 14 "Take it!"
 - 15 Wind with a range of roughly three octaves
 - 16 Pulse
 - 17 *Paperwork for a UFO pilot?
 - 19 Emotional states
 - 20 Mobile game?
 - 21 Sauce thickener
 - 22 Suffix with ether
 - 23 *Fast fashion?
 - 27 Drag through the mud
 - 29 CPR provider
 - 30 Manner
 - 31 Snap at, say
 - 35 Mug
 - 36 *House of worship known for raucous parties?
 - 39 Tech leader?
 - 40 Country songs
 - 41 Go (for)
 - 42 Wonkette founding editor Marie Cox
 - 43 "___ welcome"
 - 47 *Office scale?
 - 52 Pester
 - 53 Booker Prize-winning author Murdoch
 - 54 Really cheap
 - 56 Inelastic
 - 58 Tricks to improve product-ivity, and the tricks used to form the answers to the starred clues?
 - 59 "Yay me!"
 - 60 "Can't argue with that"
 - 61 The Met ___: annual NYC fundraising event
 - 62 Some spa treatments
 - 63 Tear to bits
 - 64 Actor Mapa of "Ugly Betty" and "Doom Patrol"
- Down**
- 1 Board book subject
 - 2 New York suburb near New Rochelle
 - 3 Camden Yards player
 - 4 ___ Choice Awards
 - 5 Icy center?
 - 6 WWII sub
 - 7 Short-legged dog
 - 8 Clothing line?
 - 9 Not more than
 - 10 Stain-removal brand
 - 11 Armed conflict waged on behalf of superpowers
 - 12 Fish sticks fish
 - 13 Core muscles
 - 18 Closed in on
 - 21 Off the beaten path
 - 24 Forage plant
 - 25 Like some lingerie
 - 26 Retina locale
 - 28 "Collapsed in Sunbeams" singer Parks
 - 32 Yoga postures
 - 33 Waterway with locks
 - 34 Explosive letters
 - 35 Burkina ___
 - 36 D.C. daily
 - 37 Fascinate
 - 38 "Sure, I guess"
 - 39 "I don't have all day!"
 - 42 Stomachs
 - 44 West Coast petroleum giant that merged with Chevron in 2005
 - 45 Really get to
 - 46 Arachnid incubator
 - 48 Whale fare
 - 49 Pumped up
 - 50 Devoid of joy
 - 51 2015 boxing film directed by Ryan Coogler
 - 55 Multi-generational tale
 - 56 ___ tide
 - 57 Hot temper
 - 58 USPS unit



By Laura Dershewitz & Katherine Baicker Tribune Content Agency 7/7/22

BRIDGE

BY STEVE BECKER

East dealer.
Both sides vulnerable.

NORTH
♠ Q 10
♥ K J 10 7 4 2
♦ 9 5 3
♣ 8 3

WEST
♠ K 8 7 4
♥ 3
♦ A K J 8 2
♣ A 10 5

EAST
♠ 9 6 3 2
♥ 8
♦ Q 10 7 4
♣ K 9 7 6

SOUTH
♠ A J 5
♥ A Q 9 6 5
♦ 6
♣ Q J 4 2

The bidding:
East South West North
Pass 1♥ Dble 4♥
Opening lead — king of diamonds.
The philosophy of good defense

Good defense is not difficult if you keep the ultimate objective — defeat of the contract — firmly in mind. Most defensive errors are usually due to a failure to view the play of the hand as a whole.

Assume you're East, defending against four hearts, and partner leads the king of diamonds. When dummy appears, you should feel there's a reasonable chance to defeat the contract. This is because the dummy, aside from its trumps, does not pose much of a threat.

You signal with the seven of diamonds, asking West to continue the suit in hopes of snatching three quick diamond tricks. But declarer ruffs the next diamond lead, and you must now reconsider how your side is going to collect the four tricks needed to set the contract.

At trick three, South leads a trump to the ten and returns a club from dummy. If you follow the general rule of second-hand low, you will later regret it. South plays the queen of clubs and West the ace, but the battle is just about over. Declarer soon

leads another club from dummy. You win the king and return a spade, but South rises with the ace and discards dummy's queen of spades on the jack of clubs to make the contract.

Note, however, that if you go up with the king on the first club lead from dummy and return a spade, South goes down one. Moreover, that's the play you'd make if you had been thinking along the proper lines when the first club was led.

After declarer trumps the diamond at trick two, it is clear that your side must score three tricks in the black suits to stop the contract. If South has the A-Q of clubs, your king is dead no matter what you do, so rising with the king can do you no harm. But if West has specifically the club ace and spade king, going up with the king and returning a spade is the only way to defeat the contract.

Tomorrow: Bidding quiz. (c)2022 King Features Syndicate Inc

JUMBLE

BY DAVID HOYT AND JEFF KNUREK

Unscramble these Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

PEOEL
URHYR
REDVOO
SOF CIA

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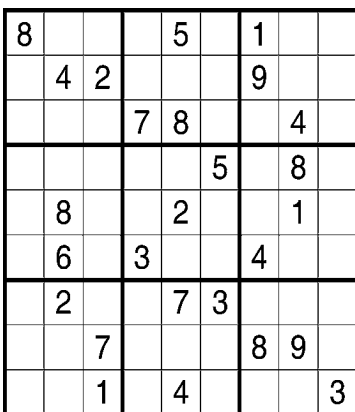
Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

(Answers tomorrow)

Yesterday's Jumbles: WEIGH CHILD POORLY CENSUS Answer: After seeing what he had picked out to wear to dinner, she had a few — CHOICE WORDS

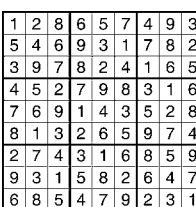


TODAY'S SUDOKU

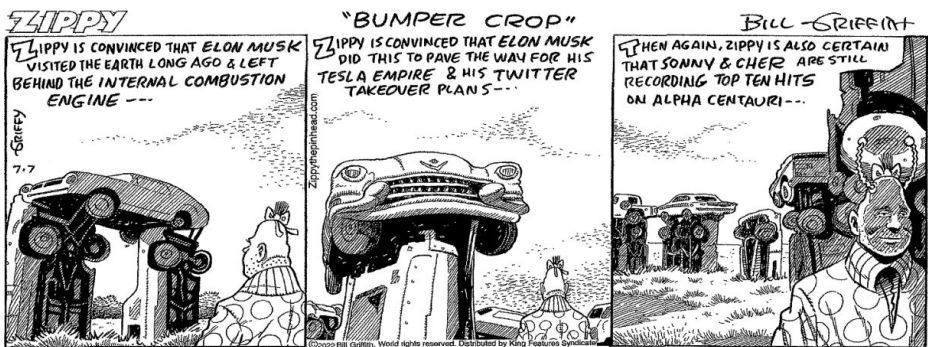



Complete the grid so each row, column and 3-by-3 box in bold borders) contains every digit, 1 to 9. For strategies on how to solve Sudoku, visit www.sudoku.org.uk

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE




ANSWER TO PREVIOUS CROSSWORD PUZZLE






ad

COUNCIL



I asked what kind of family Amina wanted. She said, ‘A family like yours.’ That’s when I knew I had to adopt her.

Denise, adopted 17-year-old Amina



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UCONN FOOTBALL

HOLDING THE LINE

A fresh approach in Storrs convinced linebacker Jackson Mitchell to stay at home and lead the Huskies

By Shreyas Laddha
Hartford Courant

Coming off a one-win season, Jackson Mitchell wasn't sure he would ever wear the UConn football navy blue and white uniforms ever again.

The Huskies linebacker thought long and hard about transferring out of Storrs. It took two meetings with new head coach Jim Mora to change his mind.

"I was confident when they came in," he said. "We talked to coach Mora and I heard him talk. He talked to me. I just talked with other guys here. I thought it was the best decision to stay, even with the past and not winning so much.

"I definitely thought about it for a second, but I realized this was the place to be and the place I wanted to be. I trusted coach Mora and coach [Lou] Spanos, who would be around. We thought we had a real chance to turn this thing around with coach Mora and the rest of the coaches."

Mitchell, academically a senior but with two years of football eligibility left, was one of the few bright spots on a team that finished 1-11 overall. He was the team's leading tackler with 120 last season, including 6.5 for loss and one sack.

In the locker room his teammates look to him as their leader.

"He's a wise man for his age because he has been playing so

much football here," said Spanos, UConn's defensive coordinator. "The production is outstanding. I mean, top-10 tackler in the country. He leads by example. When he speaks, everybody listens. When I say everyone, I mean all three phases (of football) because if Jackson is talking, there's a reason for it."

While the football team brings in an influx of new talent with transfers and recruits, Mitchell is the epitome of homegrown success. The Ridgefield native has made tremendous strides over the last couple of years.

"The maturation process and

Turn to UConn, Page 4



UConn linebacker Jackson Mitchell runs downfield during the first half against Wyoming on Sept. 25, 2021, in East Hartford. STEW MILNE/AP

RED SOX

Rookie Bello is really good — just don't call him the next Pedro

By Alex Speier
Boston Globe

BOSTON — Brayan Bello is the most anticipated Red Sox pitcher to make his debut since Eduardo Rodriguez (2015) and Clay Buchholz (2007).

Bello's combination of pitches — a mid- to high-90s sinker that is his primary pitch (roughly 35 percent usage), a four-seam fastball that tops out at 99 miles per hour, a hard, 89-90-mph changeup that dives at the ankles of righthanded batters, and a slider that shows above-average potential even as it remains inconsistent — is often described as electric.

Still, some measure of caution is in order as the 23-year-old (who will wear No. 66) prepares for his big league debut on Wednesday night.

"The reports are, 'This kid is really good,' " said Red Sox manager Alex Cora. "I know we get excited about the players, especially in this region, it seems like. They put these kids way up there. Let's chill [Wednesday] and let him enjoy it."

Because Bello is young and physically unimposing (6 feet 1,185 pounds), throws hard, and is from the Dominican Republic and in the Red Sox organization, he gets asked often about the influence of Pedro Martinez and potential similarities to the Hall of Famer.

And while Bello has benefited at times from the tutelage of Martinez, a pitcher whom he holds in enormously high regard, comparisons to the legendary Red Sox are unfair.

By the time Martinez was Bello's age, he was in his fourth big league season and second in a rotation, already bordering on All-Star status. Bello, meanwhile, is hoping to make a first big league mark on Wednesday — with the likelihood that he'll return to Triple A after the game, with Chris Sale on the

Turn to Sox, Page 2

Inside

- Hal Steinbrenner says everything "on the table" to take Yankees over the top. **Page 2**
- Breaking down Max Scherzer's return to the Mets' rotation. **Page 2**
- Red Sox's Rafael Devers out for second consecutive game with sore hamstring, back. **Page 2**

YANKEES

Hal Steinbrenner 'hopeful' that Judge will remain a Yankee for the long term

By Kristie Ackert
New York Daily News

PITTSBURGH — Hal Steinbrenner is watching what Aaron Judge is doing this season. The 29 homers to lead the majors, carrying the offense and pushing the team. The Yankees' controlling partner also knows all of that is going to cost him more money if the face of his franchise is going to be a Yankee beyond this season.

"Look, Aaron is a great Yankee, and he's very valuable to the organization," Steinbrenner said on a video conference call with reporters Wednesday afternoon. "He's a great leader. Obviously, he's performing extremely well this year and we're all thrilled about it. So look, any great Yankee, yes, it's going to be it's going to be something we're going to be looking at and talking about seriously. You know, it means a lot to the organization. Nobody's gonna deny that."

Steinbrenner said he was "hopeful" that Judge, who turned down an offer worth \$230 million before Opening Day, would remain a Yankee

Turn to Yankees, Page 2

TENNIS WIMBLEDON



Rafael Nadal returns to Taylor Fritz in a men's singles quarterfinal match at the Wimbledon tennis championships Wednesday in London. KIRSTY WIGGLESWORTH/AP

Gutting it out

Ailing Nadal has enough to get past Fritz and into semifinals; Kyrgios next

By Howard Fendrich
Associated Press

WIMBLEDON, England — Wincing from abdominal pain, unable to ply his customary relentless style of tennis, Rafael Nadal worried that he might need to stop playing in the Wimbledon quarterfinals against Taylor Fritz.

Up in the Centre Court stands, Nadal's father was waving his arms, motioning to the 22-time Grand Slam champion to quit. Not surprisingly, perhaps, the kid didn't listen. Nadal stayed out there, adjusted his service motion and his strategy — and figured out a way to win.

With much of the crowd roaring and standing after Nadal's best

"For a lot of moments. I was thinking, 'Maybe I will not be able to finish the match.'"

— Rafael Nadal

strokes, he twice erased one-set deficits against the 11th-seeded Fritz and emerged with 3-6, 7-5, 3-6, 7-5, 7-6 (10-4) victory Wednesday to reach his eighth semifinal at the All England Club.

"For a lot of moments," Nadal said, "I was thinking, 'Maybe I will not be able to finish the match.'"

He got to his 38th career major semifinal by denying what would

have been a first such appearance for Fritz, a 24-year-old American who defeated Nadal in the final at Indian Wells, California, in March. That ended a 20-match winning streak for Nadal, who was bothered that day by a painful rib injury.

This time, the problem was a muscle in his stomach area, which had some athletic tape, as was also the case for Nadal's fourth-round match Monday, when he declined to discuss it. On Wednesday, Nadal left the court with a trainer for a medical timeout while up 4-3 in the second set; Fritz paced around the baseline waiting for action to resume.

When it did, Nadal clearly was compromised. It was hard not to think: Might he give up? Nadal

acknowledged that went through his mind. Perhaps that was in Fritz's, too, because his level of play slipped precipitously for stretches.

He pretty much handed over the second set of what would become a 4-hour, 21-minute contest under a sky of slate clouds. After Fritz took the third set, his big serve got broken three times in the next.

Nadal occasionally would watch a ball off Fritz's orange racket fly by. Nadal couldn't move the way he usually does. His trademark grunts of "Uhhhh!" were rare. He didn't generate the usual zip on his serves, which dipped from a high of 120 mph to barely above 100 mph. He sought to end exchanges with

Turn to Wimbledon, Page 4

Windsor's Lincer made the most of her first Wimbledon appearance playing as a junior

By Lori Riley
Hartford Courant

Olivia Lincer grew up playing tennis in Windsor at her parents' tennis academy. She started playing in the 18-and-under age group of the USTA at age 13. At 16 she was the No. 1-ranked player in the country. Now 17, she just completed her run in the juniors division at Wimbledon, the biggest tennis tournament of her career.

"It [has] been something I've looked forward to my entire

Inside

A look at Wednesday's results from Wimbledon. **Page 5**

career," Lincer said Tuesday from England. "It's amazing to be in the same environment as the professional tennis players I've been watching since I grew up.

"I think I've been able to step up my game a bit for this tournament, but I think just I find this tournament so important, I've been extra

focused."

On Saturday, Lincer won her first-round girls' singles match, defeating Sara Saito of Japan 6-3, 6-4. On Monday, she won her second-round match against Johanne Svendsen of Denmark 7-6 (0), 6-5 to advance to the Round of 16. Her singles journey ended Wednesday, losing to No. 5 seed Victoria Mboko of Canada 6-0, 6-7(8), 6-4.

Lincer won her first girls'

Turn to Lincer, Page 4



Olivia Lincer, 17, of Windsor, is playing in the Wimbledon Junior Championships this week in England. KARINA LINCER/COURTESY

SPORTS

UP NEXT

Red Sox: Yankees, Thursday, 7 p.m.; Yankees, Friday, 7 p.m.; Yankees, Saturday, 7:15 p.m.
Yankees: at Red Sox, Thursday, 7 p.m.; at Red Sox, Friday, 7 p.m.; at Red Sox, Saturday, 7:15 p.m.
Mets: Marlins, Thursday, 7 p.m.; Marlins, Friday, 7 p.m.; Marlins, Saturday, 4 p.m.
Yard Goats: at New Hampshire, Thursday, 7 p.m.; at New Hampshire, Friday, 7 p.m.; at New Hampshire, Saturday, 7 p.m.
Sun: at Indiana, Wednesday, noon; at Dream, July 15, 7:30 p.m.; Aces, July 17, 1 p.m.
Hartford Athletic: Tampa Bay, Saturday, 7 p.m.; at Charleston, July 16, 7:30 p.m.; Pittsburgh, July 23, 7 p.m.

TV/RADIO
AUTO RACING
10 p.m.: Off Road Racing Extreme E Championship, Final. (Same-day Tape) FS1
BASEBALL
2 p.m.: Regional Coverage. (Live) MLB
7 p.m.: Regional Coverage. (Live) MLB
7 p.m.: New York Yankees at Boston Red Sox. (Live), NESN, YES. Radio: 97.9, 1080
7 p.m.: Miami Marlins at New York Mets. (Live), SNY. Radio: 880
11 p.m.: Toronto Blue Jays at Seattle Mariners. (Live) SPRTNET
BASKETBALL
11 a.m.: GLOBL JAM Women's: United States vs Belgium. (Live) SPRTNET
2 p.m.: GLOBL JAM Men's: United States vs Brazil. (Live) SPRTNET
6 p.m.: Oklahoma City Thunder vs Philadelphia 76ers. (Live) NBA
8 p.m.: Memphis Grizzlies vs Utah Jazz. (Same-day Tape) NBA
10 p.m.: Houston Rockets vs Orlando Magic. (Live) ESPN
12 a.m.: Portland Trail Blazers vs Detroit Pistons. (Live) ESPN
BICYCLING
8 a.m.: 2022 Tour de France Stage 6. (Live) USA
BOWLING
8 p.m.: Carter Division Finals. (Live) FS1
FOOTBALL
5:30 a.m.: Sydney Swans vs Western Bulldogs. (Live) FSP
GOLF
8:30 a.m.: Genesis Scottish Open, First Round. (Live) GOLF
1:30 p.m.: 2022 Bridgestone Senior Players Championship First Round. (Live) GOLF
4 p.m.: Barbasol Championship, First Round. (Live) GOLF
LACROSSE
7 p.m.: 2022 World Lacrosse Women's World Championship First Semifinal: Teams TBA. (Live) ESPN2
9 p.m.: 2022 World Lacrosse Women's World Championship Second Semifinal: Teams TBA. (Live) ESPN2
SOCCER
2:30 p.m.: UEFA Women's EURO 2022 Norway vs Northern Ireland. (Live) ESPN2
TENNIS
8 a.m.: Wimbledon Championships Ladies Semifinals. (Live) ESPN
1 p.m.: Wimbledon Championships Mixed Doubles, Championship. (Live) ESPN
2:30 p.m.: Wimbledon Championships Ladies' Semifinals. (Taped) TENNIS

Property of the Week

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Hartford Courant

METS

Breaking down Scherzer's return to rotation

By Matthew Roberson
New York Daily News

Six innings, two hits, no runs, 11 strikeouts.

Max Scherzer silenced everyone who was worried about how he'd fare in his first big-league game since May 18. The Hall of Famer didn't get a win as the Mets' bullpen and hitters let him down, but the message coming from Scherzer's right arm and now fully-healed left oblique was clear.

He's back and ready to make hitters look silly again.

His victims on Tuesday night were the Cincinnati Reds, a last place team with the National League's 14th-ranked offense. But

the Cincinnati lineup on Tuesday still featured some seasoned professionals, including veterans Mike Moustakas, Tommy Pham and Tyler Naquin, as well as Jonathan India, last year's NL Rookie of the Year. Those four combined to go 1-for-9 against Scherzer with five strikeouts.

All told, things could hardly have been better on an individual level. Scherzer turned in arguably his best start as a Met, racking up his first game with at least 11 strikeouts and zero walks since joining the club.

"Felt great, no issues whatsoever today," Scherzer assessed afterward. "I felt strong all the way through. I was able to locate the fastball, but most importantly, I

felt like I had a really good slider. In my rehab starts, it wasn't breaking the right way. I knew I was going to need it against this team. I was able to execute that. That pitch really helped me navigate their lineup."

According to FanGraphs, the Reds have produced nearly 19 runs below average this season on sliders. Scherzer and the Mets clearly had that information at their disposal heading into this start, and it resulted in Scherzer using 23 of his 79 total pitches (29%) on the slider. On the season, Scherzer is throwing the slider 23% of the time, getting a swing and miss on 48.4% of them. On Tuesday, the Reds swung at a slider nine times and came up empty on seven, good

for a 78% whiff percentage that didn't look like it was coming from a guy who just missed two months.

The heavy reliance on the slider is both a testament to the Mets' coaching staff and Scherzer's deep reservoir of pitching know-how. His slider has been his best pitch for virtually his entire career, the one that made him much more than just a hard thrower with a fiery demeanor. Even when he's not facing the bleeding Reds, though, Scherzer would be wise to keep trusting the slider as much as he did in Cincy.

While there are a few things around this team that are causing simmering concern, Max Scherzer is, undoubtedly, not one of them.



Aaron Judge has been tremendous this season, and a big reason has been his health. MIKE STOBE/GETTY

Yankees

from Page 1

for a long time.

"Well, there's no doubt we were hopeful that that is the case," Steinbrenner said. "But there's a lot of discussion to be had. And I'm always willing to talk of course. And we're going to be doing that at one point or another but we're just not going to be talking about if that happens or if and when that happens. We're not going to be talking about anything till the season's over."

At the exact halfway point of the season, Judge, who is making \$19 million this season after narrowly avoiding arbitration, has raised his price tag considerably. Besides leading the majors with 29 homers, Judge is slashing .281/.360/.612 with a .972 OPS.

Steinbrenner understands the value of that.

"I mean, it's just been phenomenal. And not only his play on the field, but his leadership has been phenomenal," Steinbrenner said.

"He's a guy that's confident, a great talent and he believes in himself and that's what you're seeing this year. And we're all thrilled."

Perhaps the most impressive numbers Judge has put up this season are 299-79. That's 299 at-bats and 79 games played. After years of injury issues, Judge has avoided injuries and missing significant time for the last season and a half.

Judge came into 2022 ready to bet on himself. He was ready to go to an arbitration hearing for this year's salary (the team and player settled in the middle with incentives) and at the self-imposed deadline, he said no to seven years at \$30.5 average annual value that would have made him the highest paid position player per year (or AAV) in Yankee history, and the second-highest on the team behind Gerrit Cole. It would have given him the second-highest AAV of an outfielder in the game, behind only Mike Trout.

That Yankees GM Brian Cashman laid bare the details of the

deal he turned down irritated the slugger and made it seem like there was some animosity there. Judge said that day that he'd wanted to keep it private.

"Well, to my knowledge, what we announced is what we offered, we knew that it was gonna get out anyway," Steinbrenner said. "And as Cashman said, we wanted to be as transparent as possible."

Steinbrenner said he had no regrets about how those negotiations went, though he did note that they had a limited window last time because of the owners' lockout.

"We made an offer that I feel was a very good one. It was based on the numbers of course, but it was also based in part on what (he) means to his organization," Steinbrenner said. "It was a combination of both. And we just didn't get to deal with them. We had less time of course this offseason than we would normally because of the lockout and all but there's no regrets and we're going to be having discussions at some point."

YANKEES NOTES

Steinbrenner says everything 'on the table' to take team over the top

By Kristie Ackert
New York Daily News

PITTSBURGH — Hal Steinbrenner believes this Yankees team is special. Happy with the changes they made in their lineup and in the coaching staff, the team's managing partner feels that there is something even more special going on behind the scenes.

"I knew we had a team that was capable of great things, but I'm not going to sit here and say that I absolutely knew that they'd be off to the historic start that they are," Steinbrenner said in a Zoom call with reporters before Wednesday's game against the Pirates. "But this is a special team and it's not just what happens on the field itself. Year after year, we've always had good clubhouses, but this one, I mean the leadership, the accountability, the support they have for each other. I mean, this is a real special group of guys."

At the halfway mark of the season, the Yankees are the best team in baseball. Steinbrenner said that the front office has not yet begun plotting the upgrades they need at the trade deadline, which is Aug. 2 this season. Steinbrenner said he is open to making moves to put this team over the top.

"[GM Brian] Cashman has people come to me like

they do every trade deadline and say, 'This is what we need. We think this can bring us over the top. We're not where we need to be yet,' and then I'm gonna consider it," Steinbrenner said. "Regardless of what the deal is now, I am hesitant to give up top prospects. I always have been, but we've done it in the past and all that will be on the table too."

Cha-cha changes: Steinbrenner repeatedly mentioned the changes to the coaching staff when asked about this year's team's success. The Yankees promoted minor league hitting coordinator Dillon Lawson to hitting coach, replacing Marcus Thames and PJ Pilittere.

"Clearly the changes we made in the lineup and the changes we made with the coaching staff," Steinbrenner said. I think the combination of both has been a large part of this. Clearly we improved our defense, which we definitely needed, but I'm just really happy with the additions to the clubhouse, and bringing Dillon on as a hitting coach and, and others. The players have really responded."

Casey Dykes and Hensley Muellens took over as assistant hitting coaches. They also replaced Phil Nevin and Reggie Willits with Luis Rojas and Travis Chapman at third base and first base coaches respectively.

MLB LATE TUESDAY

Kiermaier knocks in 4, Rays beat Red Sox 8-4 at Fenway

Associated Press

Kevin Kiermaier hit an early three-run double and broke a tie with an RBI groundout during a four-run sixth inning that sent the Tampa Bay Rays past the Boston Red Sox 8-4 on Tuesday night.

Yandy Diaz had three singles and an RBI as the Rays evened the three-game series between AL East rivals at one apiece.

Xander Bogaerts and Trevor

Story homered for Boston, and J.D. Martinez had two doubles and a single. The Red Sox had won five straight at home before the Rays prevailed in driving rain that started in the seventh and continued until Jason Adam, Tampa Bay's sixth pitcher, retired Story for the final out in worsening conditions.

The Red Sox were 2 for 12 with runners in scoring position and left 11 on base overall. Boston failed to capitalize in the fifth after Rob Refsnyder

led off with a single and Martinez followed with a double that got past right fielder Josh Lowe as he made a diving attempt to catch the ball.

Reds 1, Mets 0: At Cincinnati, New York wasted a stellar performance by Max Scherzer in his return from an oblique injury, losing on Mike Moustakas' game-ending sacrifice fly. Scherzer struck out 11 while pitching six innings of two-hit ball in his first big league start since May 18. He had

been sidelined by a strained oblique muscle on his left side.

Throwing mostly fastballs, Scherzer — who turns 38 in three weeks — allowed only one runner to reach third. And he responded by striking out Matt Reynolds to get out of the second inning.

Reds rookie Nick Lodolo combined with four relievers on a six-hitter. Lodolo struck out eight in 4 ⅔ innings in his return from a back injury.

RED SOX NOTES

Devers out for second consecutive game with sore hamstring, back

By Steve Hewitt
Boston Herald

BOSTON — It's been rare to see Rafael Devers out of the lineup this season, so it was surprising to see him out for a second consecutive night on Wednesday. But it doesn't seem like there's serious concern for the Red Sox third baseman.

Devers is dealing with soreness in his back and right hamstring, Red Sox manager Alex Cora said. The third baseman wasn't in the starting lineup but was available to pinch-hit in Wednesday's finale with the Rays. Devers could return Thursday when the Red Sox start a four-game set with the Yankees.

Robles DFA a 'tough one': After another poor outing in Tuesday's loss, Red Sox reliever Hansel Robles was designated for assignment to make room on the roster for Brayan Bello to make his major league debut.

Robles started the season strong after a late start in spring training, posting a 0.00 ERA with nine strikeouts in his first nine innings as the team's de facto closer. But after that, he wasn't close to being reliable. From April 29 on, he produced a 9.19 ERA and five blown saves.

Odds and ends: Michael Wacha, who was scratched from Monday's start with a tired arm, is expected to start Friday against the Yankees "as of now," Cora said. The right-hander threw a bullpen Wednesday and they'll assess how his body responds to that.

Sox

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cusped of returning to the Red Sox rotation.

"The next Pedro is an unfair tag. [Pedro is] one in a billion," said Worcester pitching coach Paul Abbott. "I tell him a lot, I don't want you to be the next Pedro. I want you to be the next Bello."

The two have some similarities in their entry into pro ball. Both were overlooked because of their slight builds. Martinez got a four-figure bonus from the Dodgers as a 16-year-old. Bello went unsigned for two years after reaching eligibility before signing for less than \$30,000 with the Red Sox on July 2, 2017 — a long path that the righthander treated as "a challenge" that he's now met.

Moreover, Bello possesses a dazzling ability to own the stage on the mound. There is an element of showmanship to his rapid-fire approach, in which he takes almost no time between pitches and remains in an attack mode. He has emerged as an unflappable competitor, typically dominating this year but proving adept at turning the page in those instances in which he has struggled.

"His demeanor is special — like nobody I've seen," said Abbott.

BASEBALL

AMERICAN LEAGUE

EAST	W	L	PCT	GB	WCGB	L10	STR	HOME	AWAY
New York	58	23	.716	—	—	6-4	L-2	34-9	24-14
Boston	45	36	.556	13	+1	5-5	L-1	21-17	24-19
Tampa Bay	44	37	.543	14	—	5-5	W-1	25-17	19-20
Toronto	45	38	.542	14	—	4-6	W-1	25-18	20-20
Baltimore	38	44	.463	20 ½	6 ½	5-5	W-3	20-17	18-27

CENTRAL	W	L	PCT	GB	WCGB	L10	STR	HOME	AWAY
Minnesota	47	38	.553	—	—	5-5	L-1	25-18	22-20
Cleveland	40	40	.500	4 ½	3 ½	3-7	L-4	20-17	20-23
Chicago	39	41	.488	5 ½	4 ½	6-4	W-1	17-23	22-18
Detroit	34	47	.420	11	10	6-4	W-4	23-24	11-23
Kansas City	29	50	.367	15	14	3-7	L-2	14-25	15-25

WEST	W	L	PCT	GB	WCGB	L10	STR	HOME	AWAY
Houston	53	27	.663	—	—	9-1	W-8	26-11	27-16
Seattle	41	42	.494	13 ½	4	7-3	W-4	20-20	21-22
Texas	37	42	.468	15 ½	6	4-6	L-3	17-20	20-22
Los Angeles	37	45	.451	17	7 ½	3-7	L-4	21-23	16-22
Oakland	28	56	.333	27	17 ½	3-7	L-1	10-29	18-27

BOX SCORES

CHI. CUBS 2, MILWAUKEE 1

Chi Cubs	AB	R	H	BI	SO	AVG
Ortega lf	4	0	1	1	0	.267
Hoerner ss	4	0	0	0	2	.302
Happ dh	4	0	0	0	1	.279
Wisdom 3b	3	1	0	0	3	.231
Velazquez rf	4	0	0	0	4	.268
Rivas lb	3	0	2	0	0	.236
b-Gomes ph-c	1	0	0	0	1	.221
Higgins c-1b	4	0	1	1	1	.272
Morel cf	3	1	1	0	0	.299
Simmons 2b	2	0	1	0	0	.183
a-Suzuki ph	0	0	0	0	0	.257
Bote 2b	0	0	0	0	0	.190
TOTALS	32	2	6	2	13	
Milwaukee	AB	R	H	BI	SO	AVG
Yelich dh	4	0	1	0	1	.251
Adames ss	4	0	1	0	1	.207
Tellez 1b	3	0	0	0	1	.237
Urias 3b	4	0	0	0	0	.224
Wong 2b	4	0	0	0	1	.227
Hiura lf	4	1	1	1	2	.223
Narvaez c	4	0	1	0	1	.258
Peterson rf	3	0	0	0	1	.247
Davis cf	3	0	0	0	1	.189
TOTALS	33	1	6	1	9	

Chi. Cubs	000 000 011	—	2	6	1
Milwaukee	000 010 000	—	1	6	0

a-struck out for Simmons in the 8th. b-walked out for Rivas in the 9th. **E:** Givens (1). **LOB:** Chicago 6, Milwaukee 6. **2B:** Rivas (3), Simmons (1), Higgins (4), Adames (12). **3B:** Morel (3). **HR:** Hiura (8), off Sampson. **RBIs:** Ortega (22), Higgins (12), Hiura (16). **SB:** Wong (9), Wisdom (5). **Runners left in scoring position:** Chicago 4 (Morel 2, Happ 2); Milwaukee 3 (Tellez, Urias, Peterson). **RISP:** Chicago 2 for 11; Milwaukee 0 for 6. **Runners moved up:** Yelich. **GIDP:** Ortega, Tellez, DP: Chicago 1 (Simmons, Wisdom, Rivas); Milwaukee 1 (Tellez, Adames).

CHI. CUBS	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	ERA
Sampson	5 ¹ / ₃	4	1	0	1	5	2.91
Hughes	¹ / ₃	0	0	0	0	0	3.92
Martin	1	1	0	0	0	2	3.42
Givens, W, 5-0	1	0	0	0	1	3	3.24
Robertson, S, 12-161	0	0	0	0	0	1	1.89
MILWAUKEE	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	ERA
Burnes	7	3	0	0	1	10	2.20
Schberger, BS, 1-61 ²	2	1	1	1	1	1	2.25
Gott	² / ₃	0	0	0	0	0	4.01
Hader, L, 0-2	1	1	1	1	1	2	1.63
Pitches-Strikes: Sampson 98-61;							
Hughes 2-1; Martin 21-15; Givens 11-7; Robertson 13-8; Burnes 100-65;							
Schberger 23-14; Gott 6-3; Hader 16-9.							
Inherited runners-scored: Hughes 1-0, Gott 2-0. IBB: off Givens (Tellez).							
WP: Martin, Burnes.							
Umpires: Home, Clint Vondrak; First, Manny Gonzalez; Second, Stu Scheuwater; Third, Dan Bellino.							
Time: 3:13. A: 32,696(41,900).							

LATE TUESDAY:

BALTIMORE 10, TEXAS 9 (10)

Texas	AB	R	H	BI	SO	AVG
Smith 3b	5	0	0	1	1	.235
Semien 2b	5	1	2	1	2	.241
Seager ss	5	2	3	3	0	.236
Garcia cf	5	0	0	0	3	.246
Calhoun rf	5	0	0	0	3	.232
Heim c	4	1	1	0	0	.258
Lowie 1b	3	2	2	3	0	.230
2-Culberson 1b0	0	2	0	0	0	.254
Garver dh	4	2	2	1	0	.217
1-Taveras pr-dh1	0	1	0	0	0	.260
Miller lf	4	1	1	0	0	.215
Duggar lf	1	0	0	0	1	.273
TOTALS	42	9	12	9	10	
Baltimore	AB	R	H	BI	SO	AVG
Mullins cf	4	2	3	3	0	.266
Mancini 1b	4	1	2	1	1	.281
Santander rf	5	1	2	1	0	.238
Rutschman dh	4	0	0	0	1	.209
Urias 3b	5	1	2	2	0	.229
Odor 2b	4	1	1	1	0	.206
McKenna lf	4	3	2	1	1	.253
Chirinos c	5	0	1	0	3	.160
Mateo ss	4	1	1	1	1	.195
a-Mountcale ph1	0	0	0	0	0	.276
TOTALS	41	10	14	10	7	

Texas	000 030 132	0	—	9120
Baltimore	040 000 311	1	—	10141

2outs when winning run scored. a-popped out for Mateo in the 10th. 1-run for Garver.8th. 2-run for Lowe, 10th. **E:** Mateo (11). **LOB:** Tex 8, Bal 8. **2B:** Mullins (222), Mancini (15). **HR:** Garver (10), off Akin; Lowe (12), off Vespi; Seager (16), off Bautista; McKenna (1), off King; Odor (9), off Barlow. **RBIs:** Smith (11), Semien (35), Seager (339), Garver (22), Lowe (337), Mateo (22), Mullins (335), Mancini (32), Santander (41), Urias 2(20), McKenna (5), Odor (31). **SB:** Mateo (20), McKenna (2). **SF:** Smith. **Runners left in scoring position:** Tex 4(Garcia, Garver, Smith 2); Bal 4 (Santander, Odor 2, Mullins). **RISP:** Tex 5for 10; Bal 6for 14. **Runners moved up:** Mateo. **GIDP:** Santander. **DP:** Texas 1 (Semien, Seager, Lowe).

AMERICAN LEAGUE LEADERS					
BATTING AVG.	G	AB	R	H	AVG
Arraez Min	74	272	46	94	.346
Devers Bos	78	318	57	104	.327
Bogaerts Bos	77	286	48	91	.318
France Sea	70	275	32	87	.316
Kirk Tor	72	226	40	71	.314
Alvarez Hou	71	252	53	79	.313
Benintendi KC	78	294	31	92	.313
J.Martinez Bos	70	276	46	86	.312
Cabrera Det	70	253	18	78	.308
Gimenez Cle	69	225	27	67	.298

AMERICAN LEAGUE LEADERS

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J.Martinez Bos	70	276	46	86	.312
Cabrera Det	70	253	18	78	.308
Gimenez Cle	69	225	27	67	.298

Home Runs: Judge, New York, 29; Alvarez, Houston, 25; Trout, Los Angeles, 23; Buxton, Minnesota, 22; Rizzo, New York, 22; Stanton, New York, 20; Guerrero Jr., Toronto, 19; Ohtani, Los Angeles, 18; Devers, Boston, 17; 4 tied at 16. **Runs Batted In:** J.Ramirez, Cleveland, 63; Judge, New York, 60; Alvarez, Houston, 58; Tucker, Houston, 56; Story, Boston, 54. **Pitching:** Gilbert, Seattle, 10-3; Verlander, Houston, 10-3; Taillon, New York, 9-2; Manoah, Toronto, 9-3; McClellan, Tampa Bay, 9-3; Fvaldez, Houston, 8-3; Pivetta, Boston, 8-6; M.Perez, Texas, 7-2; Cole, New York, 7-2; Cimber, Toronto, 7-2.

CHI. WHITE SOX 9, MINNESOTA 8 (10)

Minnesota	AB	R	H	BI	SO	AVG
Arraez dh	5	2	4	1	0	.354
Polanco 2b	4	2	2	3	1	.244
Buxton cf	5	0	0	0	2	.218
Kepler rf	4	0	0	0	1	.231
Kirilloff lf	4	0	1	1	0	.263
1-Celestino lf	1	0	0	0	0	.281
Gordon ss	5	0	0	3	2	.267
Miranda 1b	4	1	2	0	0	.242
Ursula 3b	5	2	3	2	1	.266
Jeffers c	5	1	1	1	2	.192
TOTALS	42	8	13	8	9	
White Sox	AB	R	H	BI	SO	AVG
Anderson ss	4	1	0	0	0	.314
Vaughn 1b	5	2	2	2	0	.298
Robert cf	4	2	2	2	2	.289
Abreu dh	5	0	2	1	1	.291
Sheets rf	5	1	2	0	1	.228
Pollock lf	0	0	0	0	0	.242
Jimenez lf	5	1	2	0	2	.244
Engel rf	0	0	0	0	0	.240
Moncada 3b	3	0	1	0	0	.188
Garrison 1b	4	0	0	0	0	.241
Harcia 2b	4	0	1	1	1	.203
Zavala c	4	1	2	0	1	.345
TOTALS	40	9	14	9	8	

Minnesota	120 020 120	0	—	813 2
Chi. White Sox	100 220 120	1	—	914 1

No outs when winning run scored. 1-run for Celestino in the 7th. **E:** Ryan (1), Celestino (3), Vaughn (3). **LOB:** Minnesota 8, Chicago 9. **2B:** Jeffers (10), Miranda (12), Abreu (21). **HR:** Polanco (1), off Lynn; Polanco (12), off Graveman; Ursula (8), off Foster; Jimenez (2), off Ryan; Robert (9), off Pagan; Vaughn (8), off Megill. **RBIs:** Kirilloff (18), Jeffers (21), Arraez (29), Polanco (344), Ursula (235), Abreu (38), Jimenez (310), Robert 2(42), Vaughn 2(38), Garcia (15). **Runners left in scoring position:** Minnesota 4(Gordon 2, Arraez, Buxton); Chicago 5(Harrison 2, Abreu 2, Sheets). **RISP:** Minnesota 2for 11; Chicago 3 for 9. **Runners moved up:** Kirilloff. **GIDP:** Jeffers, Garcia, DP: Minnesota 1 (Gordon, Miranda); Chicago 1 (Anderson, Vaughn).

MINNESOTA	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	ERA
Ryan	4	5	3	2	2	3	3.09
Pagan	1	3	2	2	0	2	5.34
Thielbar	1	2	1	0	0	2	5.28
Jax, BS, 1-4	1	3	1	1	0	1	2.90
Megill, BS, 0-1	1	2	2	2	0	2	3.14
Duran	1	0	0	0	0	0	1.95
Moran, L, 0-1	0	1	1	0	0	1	1.23
WHITE SOX	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	ERA
Lynn	5	6	5	5	2	4	5.33
Lopez	1	2	0	0	0	2	3.16
Graveman	1	2	1	1	0	0	2.45
Foster	1	3	2	2	0	0	5.18
Hendriks	1	0	0	0	0	2	2.60
Ruiz, W, 1-0	1	0	0	0	1	1	3.90
HBP: Ryan (Garcia). WP: Ryan, Lynn.							
PB: Jeffers (5). Umpires: Home, Sean Barber; First, Larry Vanover; Second, David Rackley; Third, Randy Rosenber.							
Time: 3:47. A: 18,393 (40,615).							

LATE TUESDAY:

CHI. CUBS 8, MILWAUKEE 3

Chi Cubs	AB	R	H	BI	SO	AVG
Ortega dh	3	1	2	2	0	.267
Morel ph-dh	1	0	0	0	1	.271
Hoerner ss	5	1	1	0	0	.238
Happ lf	4	2	1	1	0	.283
Suzuki rf	5	1	2	3	0	.257
Wisdom 3b	4	1	2	0	0	.234
Rivas 1b	4	0	0	0	2	.227
Gomes c	4	1	2	0	1	.222
Velazquez cf	4	1	1	1	0	.299
Bote 2b	3	0	0	0	1	.190
Simmons 2b	1	0	0	0	0	.174
TOTALS	38	8	11	7	7	
Millwaukee	AB	R	H	BI	SO	AVG
Yelich dh	3	1	0	0	0	.251
Adames ss	4	0	0	0	3	.208
Melchutchen lf	3	0	0	0	2	.229
Hiura lf	0	0	0	0	0	.222
Wong 2b	3	0	1	0	1	.226
Urias 3b	4	0	0	0	1	.239
Peterson rf	4	1	2	0	0	.251
Caratini c	4	0	1	1	0	.246
Davis cf	3	0	0	0	0	.176
TOTALS	31	3	5	3	9	

SPORTS

UConn

from Page 1

just how high his football IQ is,” Spanos said. “He understands the game. When we are talking about football, us two are on the same page. He will be like, ‘Did you see this?’ or ‘What about this?’ He’s a football junkie.

“He’s trained with [strength and conditioning] coach [Matt] King. He’s done an outstanding job and his body has changed so much. He’s morphed. Jackson has had an outstanding spring. He wants this year to be special. All signs are a go. He’s so self-driven and a high-motor guy; it’s a joy. This is one of the reasons you get into coaching because of players like him.”

Mitchell, listed as 6 feet 2 and 227 pounds, is heading into the season with renewed energy and excitement.

“This is the hardest summer we’ve worked since I’ve been here for sure,” he said. “Just getting in the workouts with coach King, but also on our own as individuals. As players, we’ve been taking it upon ourselves. ... As a whole defense we’ve been going in on our own

without the coaches.”

Mitchell credits Mora and the rest of the coaching staff for creating a level of energy and intensity that the program hasn’t had in years.

“It’s a new energy,” he said. “It’s just a different energy and guys are excited to come to the building every day. They are excited to get to work. Coach Mora was out in L.A. for a while, and he’s pretty up to date with football culture and culture in general.

“He’s a football coach and he’s going to be hard on us when it comes to football. Outside of football, he’s a cool guy to sit down with and talk to when we eat.”

Mora coached in the NFL from 2004-10, so Mitchell has tried to learn as much as he can as he has pro aspirations. He is learning how much work it will take, meaning no slacking off in practice and putting in plenty of individual work. His typical day includes conditioning work, lifting weights, football drills with the rest of the defense and running drills without coaches.

With all the extra work he has put in, Mitchell has high expectations for

himself next season.

“I’ve always been a leader, but I want to become more of a vocal leader,” he said. “When things need to be said or speak up, I think I need to work on that. I am more of a leader by example.

“On the football field, I want to continue to improve my game. I definitely want to add more sacks and interceptions to my game. I try not to set a limit with my goals.”

Mitchell is cautiously optimistic about how UConn, which has not played in a bowl game since 2015, will fare next season.

“We are going to take it one step at a time and take it slow,” he said. “I think as a team in the past we’ve gotten too excited and thought about things too far in the future. Right now, as a team, our goal is to beat Utah State in week zero.

“The main goal is to get to a bowl game. We haven’t been there [in] I don’t know how many years here. Right now, we are focused on Utah State and just winning the first game.”

Shreyas Laddha can be reached at sladdha@courant.com or @shre98 on Twitter.



Rafael Nadal, right, greets Taylor Fritz at the net after beating him in a men’s singles quarterfinal match at the Wimbledon tennis championships Wednesday in London. **KIRSTY WIGGLESWORTH/AP**

Wimbledon

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a quick-strike forehand or a drop shot — sometimes with success, often not.

“A tough afternoon. Not an easy match at all,” Nadal said. “In the abdominal, something is not going well.”

Still, he summoned his best for last, grabbing a 5-0 lead in the closing tiebreaker — the first-to-10, win-by-two format starting at 6-all in a fifth set is new to Wimbledon this year — and then five of the last six points. By doing so, Nadal extended his unbeaten mark in Grand Slam matches in 2022 to 19-0 as he seeks to add a trophy at Wimbledon to his triumphs at the Austra-

lian Open in January, then the French Open in June. For everything that he’s accomplished, the 36-year-old Spaniard never has won the first three Slam titles of a season.

On Friday, Nadal will meet Nick Kyrgios, a 27-year-old Australian who will be making his Grand Slam semifinal debut after a 6-4, 6-3, 7-6 (5) victory over Cristian Garin of Chile.

The other men’s semifinal will be No. 1 Novak Djokovic against No. 9 Cam Norrie.

The women’s semifinals Thursday will be 2019 champion Simona Halep against No. 17 Elena Rybakina, and No. 3 Ons Jabeur against unseeded Tatjana Maria. Halep advanced by eliminating No. 20 Amanda Anisimova of the United

States 6-2, 6-4, and Rybakina came back to defeat Ajla Tomljanovic 4-6, 6-2, 6-3.

Asked to look ahead to facing Kyrgios, Nadal began with this ominous-sounding statement: “I hope to be ready to play.”

He continued: “I need to be at 100% to keep having chances and that’s what I’m going to try to do.”

Nadal, who won Wimbledon in 2008 and 2010, leads Kyrgios 6-3 head-to-head; they are 1-all at Wimbledon. In 2014, Kyrgios, then just 19 and ranked 144th, announced himself to the world by winning; in 2019, Nadal took the rematch after Kyrgios spent the night before at a local pub into the wee hours.

“I feel like that would be a mouth-watering kind

of encounter for everyone around the world,” Kyrgios, never afraid of a little hyperbole, said about facing Nadal again. “That would probably be the most-watched match of all time.”

Give Kyrgios credit for honesty on this matter, at least: Even he did not think this day ever would arrive. Kyrgios became the first unseeded and lowest-ranked man to get to the final four at the All England Club since 2008 by playing what, for him, amounts to a restrained and efficient brand of tennis against Garin.

“I thought my ship had sailed,” Kyrgios said. “Obviously, I didn’t go about things great early in my career and may have wasted that little window.”

Lincer

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doubles match with partner Renata Jamrichova of Slovakia 6-3, 6-1 over Sofia Johnson and Daniela Plani of Great Britain on Tuesday, but lost in the second round on Wednesday, 4-6, 6-3, 10-4, to the No. 1-seeded doubles team of Nikola Bartunkova of the Czech Republic and Celine Naef of Switzerland.

Lincer holds dual citizenship in the U.S. and Poland and plays for Poland, her father’s native country. Her father, Magic Lincer, is also her coach. He owns Magic Lincer Tennis Academy in Windsor and Magic Lincer Tennis Club of Manchester. Her mother Karina, who runs the academies, and her sister Karolina, who is 14, also traveled to England to watch Olivia play.

“It was super exciting,” Karina said Tuesday. “I had to fly home Monday to take care of the businesses. I was so excited and emotional about it. She has worked so hard and really dedicates herself. Everything is about tennis for her. To see it all coming to pass, everything she’s worked so hard for, was amazing. I’m so glad we could be all together for it.”

“It was probably the most special moment for us as a family.”

Olivia started playing tennis when she was 2. Her parents opened their first academy in Windsor when she was 6.

“Magic was a tennis pro when

we met,” Karina said. “We met on Thanksgiving. We were introduced by family. We were married seven months later. We’ve been married 18 years.

“When the club in Windsor came up for sale, we just built the business from there. The kids, he started them playing tennis as soon as they could hold a racket. Olivia was 3 ½ when Karolina was born, so it was special time with Dad for her. Her love for tennis started right away.”

Olivia grew up at the tennis club and was home-schooled. When she became No. 1 in the USTA rankings, she started competing in International Tennis Federation junior tournaments all over the world and now goes to school online. She has committed to play at UCF in the fall of 2023.

“At a young age, she was doing well in tournaments,” Karina said. “Magic decided when she was 13, he put her in 18 sectionals. Everybody was shocked. She started to see she could do it. By the time she was 13, she was winning 18s tournaments.”

Lincer, who is currently ranked 72nd in the ITF Wold Tennis Tour junior rankings, received a main draw invitation to the juniors tournament at Wimbledon and has proven she belongs in her first Grand Slam event.

“We’re among 16 of the best players in the world, so everybody is amazing,” Magic said Tuesday from England. “The first round, she beat the No. 1 junior from Japan and [Monday], she beat the No. 1 junior from Denmark.

Obviously, those are good wins, so we’re very, very happy.

“She is a very disciplined player. I can tell you the compliments I’m getting from other people, so I don’t have to create my own, but people have commented how composed she is on the court. She’s not acting like a spoiled kid when she loses a point. She thinks through situations on the court. She’s able to push her own style into the match, and if that doesn’t work, she adapts to the opponent’s style and tries to find their weaknesses and avoid the strengths. Her mental part of the game is good.”

Lincer decided that she wanted to play for Poland this spring.

“She has a strong connection to Poland,” Karina said. “We’re very connected to our family over there. In our house, we eat Polish food, we speak Polish. Our holidays, they’re Polish traditions. She has that connection.

“I think also the [Polish tennis] federation has been extremely excited about her abilities and has been supportive of her, which we did not find from USTA.”

Olivia would eventually like to play tennis professionally.

“I’ve always dreamt of becoming a professional tennis player and playing the professional Grand Slams,” she said. “But my goal is to be the best I can be and work as hard as I can.”

Lori Riley can be reached at lriley@courant.com.

CELTICS NOTES

Rookie Davison hopes to learn from the best

By Mark Murphy
Boston Herald

BOSTON — JD Davison begins his life as a Celtic with one basic understanding. As the 53rd pick in the draft by a team that came within two games of winning the NBA title, the 19-year-old point guard has lots of time to develop.

And beyond a starting point guard role on the Celtics summer league team, beginning with a game Saturday against the Bucks in Las Vegas, Davison is looking forward to a chance to take something from the likes of Marcus Smart, Malcolm Brodgon and Derrick White once training camp begins next fall.

“I can say that working every day, going against a guy like Marcus Smart, and also Malcolm is going to be a new one here, so just going and just working every day, getting better and knowing (when) my name is called it’ll be my time,” the Celtics rookie said after Tuesday’s practice at the Auerbach Center.”

Asked about what he can take away from the Defensive Player of the Year, Davison said, “Just like his defensive IQ is like way above everybody else as I can say. I’m just learning every player’s details and what they do and how they play.

“Long term, I would say (I’m) between the point guard and the combo guard just because I know I can pass, I can score, and I can defend, so really don’t matter where I’m at, on the ball or off the ball, I’m just going to be a dog on both ends of the court.”

Alabama guard JD Davison (3) dribbles against Florida during the first half of an NCAA college basketball game Wednesday, Jan.

5, 2022, in Gainesville, Fla. (AP Photo/Matt Stamey)

Davison left Alabama for the draft after his freshman season — Brad Stevens pointed out that Davison was only a year removed from his high school graduation on the night of the draft — with the belief that the NBA’s style would be better-suited to his game.

“My season at Alabama didn’t go as well as I wanted to, but I think I had spurts of what I showed and what I can do at the NBA level,” he said. “My decision was because the NBA floor is so spaced out for a dynamic guard like me, I think it was the best for me to go out and go to the draft.”

Will Hardy, we hardly knew ye: After only one season as Ime Udoka’s lead assistant, Will Hardy was introduced as head coach of the Utah Jazz last week.

No one, including Celtics assistant and summer league coach Ben Sullivan, expected it to take long.

“Will and I worked together in the video room in San Antonio in my very first year in the league, so I’ve known Will since I started working in the NBA,” said Sullivan. “So, high IQ, high-character guy, hard-worker, understands offensive and defensive concepts. He’s got the whole package. Very personable, sociable, well-liked, so I think he’s going to do a great job. I’m really excited for him.

“Just excited, happy for Will. I mean, how could you not be?” he said. “Like, to go have that opportunity to go do that, it’s awesome. We’re all excited for him. We’re all happy for him. Sad to see him go, but I don’t think anything besides excitement is what I really felt when I first heard it.”

KNICKS

Things to watch with Summer League action

By Stefan Bondy
New York Daily News

NEW YORK — It’s been a long three months since the Knicks last played basketball, and another long three months until they play again.

At least we have Summer League in the middle.

For the Knicks, much of the intrigue dissolved when they traded their 11th overall pick last month. But there will be storylines and developments to follow for Tom Thibodeau’s squad, with the top four detailed below:

Will Grimes take advantage?

Last year became a showcase for Obi Toppin and Immanuel Quickley, who both demonstrated their offseason growth and uptick in confidence while averaging over 20 points per game. That ultimately carried over to the NBA season, even if took a few months for Quickley to get rolling.

The 2022 Summer League Knicks should be Grimes Time. The 25th overall pick in 2021, Quentin Grimes flashed two-way potential and became a favorite of Thibodeau, starting six games before a knee injury derailed his final six weeks. Grimes was better than his modest average of six points on 40.4% shooting.

Where do the 2021 picks stands?

Assuming the Knicks roster is finished, or close to finished, there won’t be much playing time available for point guard Miles McBride and center Jericho Sims. Especially McBride.

Kemba Walker is gone but he didn’t play much last season anyway. Brunson is arriving and Derrick Rose is returning. There’s also Fournier, RJ Barrett

and Quickley eating up minutes in the guard spots. It’s a tough spot for McBride and Summer League won’t determine his rotation spot, but it’s an opportunity to again drum up excitement for his potential. He became a fan favorite despite limited opportunities, which was at least partially due to the Knicks’ messy situation at point guard.

Sims’ situation is a little different. The Knicks traded one center but signed another, Isaiah Hartenstein, while committing big money to Mitchell Robinson to be their center of the present and future. We still don’t know the fate of Taj Gibson, but, at best on paper, Sims will be the second backup.

What about the newcomer?

The Knicks traded their first rounder this year but used their 42nd pick on Trevor Keels, a guard from Duke who disappointed in his lone college season but was a five-star recruit in high school. Like with McBride, there isn’t much room in the Knicks rotation for a young guard and it’s easy to see Keels playing in the G League as a rookie.

Who may emerge?

There are always a couple players who impress enough in Summer League to earn a training-camp invite, which rarely, but sometimes, turns into a roster spot. Feron Hunt, who signed a two-way contract with the Knicks last season, and Jean Montero, who inked an Exhibit-10 deal after the draft, are already near locks to attend Thibodeau’s training camp in September. Other intriguing players on the Summer League roster include forward Aamir Sims, guard MJ Walker and forward D’Shawn Schwartz.

SCOREBOARD

SOCCER

MLS EASTERN	W	L	T	PT	GF	GA
N.Y. Red Bulls	9	5	5	32	29	20
Philadelphia	7	2	9	30	22	13
CF Montréal	9	7	2	29	32	33
New York City FC	8	4	5	29	33	19
Cincinnati	7	7	4	25	29	32
Orlando City	7	7	4	25	23	28
New England	6	5	7	25	29	28
Charlotte FC	7	10	2	23	19	23
Inter Miami CF	6	7	4	22	18	26
Columbus	5	5	7	22	20	18
Atlanta	5	7	5	20	26	26
Toronto FC	5	10	3	18	24	34
D.C. United	5	9	2	17	23	30
Chicago	4	9	5	17	16	24

WESTERN	W	L	T	PT	GF	GA
Los Angeles FC	11	4	3	36	35	19
Austin FC	10	4	4	34	35	22
Real Salt Lake	8	5	5	29	22	22
LA Galaxy	8	6	3	27	24	21
FC Dallas	7	5	6	27	28	21
Nashville	7	5	6	27	24	21
Seattle	8	7	2	26	26	19
Minnesota United	7	8	3	24	23	23
Vancouver	7	8	3	24	19	28
Portland	5	6	8	23	29	29
Houston	6	9	3	21	22	23
Colorado	5	8	4	19	19	24
San Jose	4	7	6	18	27	35
Sporting KC	4	11	4	16	16	33

Three points for win, one point for tie.

FRIDAY'S MATCHES

D.C. United at Philadelphia, 7:30p.m.
LA Galaxy at Los Angeles FC, 10p.m.
Minnesota at Vancouver, 10:30p.m.

SATURDAY'S MATCHES

New England at New York City FC, 1 p.m.
Portland at Seattle, 4:30p.m.
Austin FC at Atlanta, 7p.m.
Nashville at Charlotte FC, 7p.m.
N.Y. Red Bulls at Cincinnati, 7:30p.m.
Sporting KC at CF Montréal, 7:30p.m.
San Jose at Toronto FC, 7:30p.m.
Miami at Orlando City, 8p.m.
Columbus at Chicago, 8p.m.
FC Dallas at Houston, 8:30p.m.
Colorado at Real Salt Lake, 10p.m.

TUESDAY'S MATCH

Houston at Austin FC, 9p.m.

WEDNESDAY, JULY 13

Real Salt Lake at Atlanta, 7:30p.m.
Toronto FC at Chicago, 8p.m.
Vancouver at Cincinnati, 8p.m.
Columbus at D.C. United, 8p.m.
Philadelphia at Miami, 8p.m.
Sporting KC at Minnesota, 8p.m.
Seattle at Nashville, 8:30p.m.
Orlando City at Colorado, 9p.m.
New York City FC at FC Dallas, 9p.m.
San Jose at LA Galaxy, 10p.m.

SATURDAY, JULY 16

Toronto FC at CF Montréal, 7:30p.m.
New England at Philadelphia, 7:30p.m.
Seattle at Chicago, 8p.m.
Charlotte FC at Miami, 8p.m.
D.C. United at Minnesota, 8p.m.
LA Galaxy at Colorado, 9p.m.
Austin FC at FC Dallas, 9p.m.

U.S. OPEN CUP

WEDNESDAY, JULY 27, SEMIFINALS
N.Y. Red Bulls at Orlando City, 7:30p.m.
Sporting Kansas City at Sacramento Republic FC, 10:30p.m.

NWSL CLUBS

CLUB	W	L	T	PT	GF	GA
San Diego FC	6	2	3	21	18	9
Chicago	5	1	4	19	17	10
Portland	4	1	5	17	22	8
OL Reign	4	2	4	16	9	6
Houston	4	3	3	15	16	12
Angel City FC	4	4	2	14	8	10
Kansas City	3	4	3	12	10	14
Louisville	2	4	4	10	12	16
Gotham FC	3	5	0	9	5	12
Washington	1	4	6	9	11	14
Orlando	2	5	3	9	11	26
North Carolina	2	5	1	7	12	14

Three points for win, one point for tie.

FRIDAY'S MATCHES

Houston at Orlando, 7p.m.
Gotham FC at Louisville, 8p.m.

SATURDAY'S MATCH

San Diego FC at Angel City FC, 10:30 p.m.

SUNDAY'S MATCHES

Kansas City at Washington, 5p.m.
North Carolina at Chicago, 6p.m.
Portland at OL Reign, 6p.m.

FRIDAY, JULY 15

Angel City FC at North Carolina, 7:30 p.m.
Louisville at San Diego Wave FC, 10p.m.

U.S. WOMEN'S SCHEDULE (7-0-1)

s-Feb. 17: U.S. 0, Czech Republic 0
s-Feb. 20: U.S. 5, New Zealand 0
s-Feb. 23: U.S. 5, Iceland 0
April 9: U.S. 9, Uzbekistan 1
April 12: U.S. 9, Uzbekistan 0
June 25: U.S. 3, Colombia 0
June 28: U.S. 2, Colombia 0
v-July 4: U.S. 3, Haiti 0
v-Thursdays: vs. Jamaica, 7 p.m.
v-Monday: at Mexico, 10p.m.
s-SheBelieves Cup
v-CONCACAF W Championship

WNBA

EAST	W	L	Pct	GB
Chicago	15	6	.714	—
Connecticut	14	8	.636	1½
Washington	13	10	.565	3
Atlanta	10	11	.476	5
New York	8	12	.400	6½
Indiana	5	18	.217	11

WEST

FRIDAY-MONDAY: All-Star Weekend

SATURDAY' ALL-STAR SCHEDULE
Three-Point Contest and
Skills Challenge, 3:00pm.

SUNDAY'S ALL-STAR GAME
Team Stewart vs. Team Wilson, 1p.m.

WEDNESDAY'S RESULTS

Minnesota 81, Chicago 78
Washington at Atlanta, late.
New York at Las Vegas, late.m.

THURSDAY'S GAMES

Chicago at Indiana, 7p.m.
New York at Phoenix, 10p.m.
Seattle at Los Angeles, 10:30p.m.

FRIDAY-MONDAY: All-Star Weekend

SATURDAY ALL-STAR SCHEDULE

Three-Point Contest and Skills Challenge, 3:00pm.
SUNDAY ALL-STAR GAME
Team Stewart vs. Team Wilson, 1p.m.

TUESDAY'S RESULTS

Seattle 95, Indiana 73
Dallas 82, Connecticut 71

NBA SUMMER LEAGUE

CALIFORNIA CLASSIC

At San Francisco
Tuesday, July 6
Miami 94, Golden State 70
Sacramento 87, L.A. Lakers 75

SALT LAKE CITY SUMMER LEAGUE

At Salt Lake City
Tuesday, July 6
Oklahoma City 98, Utah 77

Wednesday's results

Oklahoma City 87, Memphis 71
Philadelphia vs. Utah, late

Thursday's games

Oklahoma City vs. Philadelphia, 6p.m.
Memphis vs. Utah, 8p.m.

NBA 2K23 SUMMER LEAGUE

At Las Vegas
Thursday's games
Houston vs. Orlando, 10p.m.
Portland vs. Detroit, 11:59p.m.

Friday's games

Dallas vs. Chicago, 4p.m.
San Antonio vs. Cleveland, 5p.m.
Charlotte vs. Indiana, 6p.m.
Brooklyn vs. Milwaukee, 7p.m.
Golden State vs. New York, 8p.m.
Denver vs. Minnesota, 9p.m.
Phoenix vs. L.A. Lakers, 10p.m.

TENNIS

135TH WIMBLEDON CHAMPIONSHIPS

Wednesay at the All England Lawn Tennis and Croquet Club, London, outdoors-grass
MEN'S SINGLES, QUARTERFINALS
#2 Rafael Nadal d. #11 Taylor Fritz, 3-6, 7-5, 3-6, 7-5, 7-6(4).

FRITZ	Time: 4:21.	NADAL
19	Aces	5
3	Double Faults	7
63%	First Serve % In	65%
70%	Win % on 1st Serve	70%
48%	Win % on 2nd Serve	47%
20-35	Net Points Won	26-36
8-14	Break Points Won	7-14
62-164	Receiving Points Won	66-172
56	Winners	56
35	Unforced Errors	42
168	Total Points Won	68
5188.8m	Distance Covered	5135.1m
15.4m	Distance Covered/Pt.	15.3m
1	Return Winners	1
27	Return Unforced Errors	4
164	Return Points	172
27	Service Games	28
119.3	Avg serve (mph)	102.5
134.8	Fastest Serve (mph)	119.9

Nick Kyrgios d. Cristian Garin, 6-4, 6-3, 7-6(5).

WOMEN'S SINGLES, QUARTERFINALS

#16 Simona Halep d.
#20 Amanda Anisimova, 6-2, 6-4.
#17 Elena Rybakina d. Ajla Tomljanovic, 4-6, 6-2, 6-3.

THURSDAY FEATURED MATCHES

#3 Ons Jabeur vs. Tatjana Maria
#16 Simona Halep vs.
#17 Elena Rybakina

STAT OF THE DAY

5: Number of first-time Grand Slam semifinalists at Wimbledon this year, the most at any major tournament since the 1997 U.S. Open — Jabeur, Kyrgios, Maria, Rybakina and Cam Norrie.

MEN'S ROAD TO SEMIFINALS

#1 NOVAK DJOKOVIC
R1: Soon Woo Kwon, 6-3, 3-6, 6-3, 6-4
R2: Thanasi Kokkinakis, 6-1, 6-4, 6-2
R3: #25 Miomir Kecmanovic, 6-0, 6-3, 6-4
R4: Tim van Rijthoven, 6-2, 4-6, 6-1, 6-2
QF: #10 Jannik Sinner, 5-7, 2-6, 6-3, 6-2, 6-2.
SF: vs. #9 Cameron Norrie

#2 RAFAEL NADAL

R1: Francisco Cerundolo, 6-4, 6-3, 3-6, 6-4
R2: Ricardas Berankis, 6-4, 6-4, 4-6, 6-3
R3: #27 Lorenzo Sonego, 6-1, 6-2, 6-4
R4: #21 Botic Van De Zandschulp, 6-4, 6-2, 7-6 (8-6)
QF: #11 Taylor Fritz, 3-6, 7-5, 3-6, 7-5, 7-6 (4).
SF: vs. Nick Kyrgios

#9 CAMERON NORRIE

R1: Pablo Andujar, 6-0, 7-6 (7-3), 6-3
R2: Jaume Munar, 6-4, 3-6, 5-7, 6-0, 6-2
R3: Steve Johnson, 6-4, 6-1, 6-0
R4: #30 Tommy Paul, 6-4, 7-5, 6-4
QF: David Goffin, 3-6, 7-5, 2-6, 6-3, 7-5.
SF: vs. #1 Novak Djokovic

NICK KYRGIOS

R1: Paul Jubb, 3-6, 6-1, 7-5, 6-7 (3-7), 7-5
R2: #26 Filip Krajinovic, 6-2, 6-3, 6-1
R3: #4 Stefanos Tsitsipas, 6-7 (2-7), 6-4, 6-3, 7-6 (9-7)
R4: Brandon Nakashima, 4-6, 6-4, 7-6 (7-2), 3-6, 6-2
QF: Cristian Garin, 6-4, 6-3, 7-6 (5).
SF: vs. #2 Rafael Nadal

WOMEN'S ROAD TO SEMIFINALS

#3 ONS JABEUR
R1: Mirjam Bjorklund, 6-1, 6-3
R2: Katarzyna Kawa, 6-4, 6-0
R3: Diane Parry, 6-2, 6-3
R4: #24 Elise Mertens, 7-6 (11-9), 6-4
QF: Marie Bouzkova, 3-6, 6-1, 6-1.
SF: vs. Tatjana Maria

#16 SIMONA HALEP

R1: Karolina Muchova, 6-3, 6-2
R2: Kirsten Flipkens, 7-5, 6-4
R3: Magdalena Frech, 6-4, 6-1
R4: #4 Paula Badosa, 6-1, 6-2
QF: #20 Amanda Anisimova, 6-2, 6-4.
SF: vs. #17 Elena Rybakina

#17 ELENA RYBAKINA

R1: Coco Vandeweghe, 7-6 (7-2), 7-5
R2: Bianca Andreescu, 6-4, 7-6 (7-5)
R3: Qinwen Zheng, 7-6 (7-4), 7-5
R4: Petra Martic, 7-5, 6-3
QF: Ajla Tomljanovic, 4-6, 6-2, 6-3.
SF: vs. #16 Simona Halep

TATJANA MARIA

R1: Astra Sharma, 4-6, 6-3, 6-4
R2: #26 Sorana Cirstea, 6-3, 1-6, 7-5
R3: #5 Maria Sakkarı, 6-3, 7-5
R4: #12 Jelena Ostapenko, 5-7, 7-5, 7-5
QF: Jule Niemeier, 4-6, 6-2, 7-5.
SF: vs. #3 Ons Jabeur

WTA GRAND EST OPEN 88

Wednesday at Tennis Club de Contrexeville, Contrexeville, France, Red-clay-outdoors
WOMEN'S SINGLES ROUND OF 16
#1 Anna Bondar d. Lena Papadakis, 6-2, 6-2.
Camilla Rosatello d. Alice Robbe, 7-6(7), 6-1.
Sara Errani d. Olga Danilovic, 2-6, 6-2, 6-4.
Olivia Gadecki d. Elsa Jacquemot, 6-2, 6-1.

WTA NORDEA OPEN

Wednesday at Bastad Tennis Stadium, Bastad, Sweden, Reed clay-outdoors
WOMEN'S SINGLES, ROUND OF 16
#2 Anna-Karolina Schmiedlova d. Elina Avanesyan, 6-2, 6-3.
#4 Rebecca Peterson d. Leolia Jeanjean, 4-6, 7-5, 6-3.
#5 Panna Udvardy d. Cailsa Wilda Hennemann, 6-4, 6-2.
#6 Lauren Davis d. Katarina Zavatska, 6-4, 6-1.
Jang Su Jeong, d. Irina Khromacheva, 6-0, 6-1.
Mihaela Buzarnescu d. Yuan Yue, 6-2, 6-1.
Rebeka Masarova d. Mirjam Bjorklund, 6-2, 6-3.
Viktoriya Tomova d. Ipek Oz, 6-2, 3-6, 6-2.

ODDS

MLB THURSDAY

NATIONAL LEAGUE

FAVORITE	LINE	UNDERDOG	LINE
at Cincinnati	off	Pittsburgh (G1)	off
at Philadelphia	off	Washington	off
at Cincinnati	off	Pittsburgh (G2)	off
at NY Mets	-180	Miami	+155
at Atlanta	-201	St. Louis	+168
at Arizona	off	Colorado	off
at San Diego	-131	San Francisco	+111
at LA Dodgers	-283	Chi. Cubs	+231

AMERICAN LEAGUE

at Houston	-275	Kansas City	+225
at Baltimore	off	LA Angels	off
NY Yankees	-163	at Boston	+140
at Chi Wh.	-163	Detroit	+204
at Seattle	off	Toronto	off

NHL DRAFT

ROUND 1 FIRST OVERALL SELECTION

Shane Wright, Kingston (OHL)	4-11
Juraj Slafkovsky, TPS (Liiga)	7-4
Logan Cooley, USN U18(USNTDP)	11-1
Simon Nemeec, HK Nitra (Svk)	30-1
Joakim Kemell, JYP (Liiga)	40-1
Matthew Savoie Winnipeg (WHL)	45-1
David Jiricek, HC Plze (Cze)	50-1
Brad Lambert, JYP-Pelicans (Liiga)	55-1
Jon Lekkerimäki, Djurgårdens (SWEJ20)	60-1
Danila Yurov, Magnitogorsk (KHL)	70-1
Frank Nazar, USN U18(USNTDP)	80-1
Conor Geekie, Winnipeg Ice (WHL)	80-1
Cutter Gauthier, Gauthier U18(USNTDP)	80-1
Rutger McGroarty, USNTDP	100-1
Kevin Korchiunski, Seattle (WHL)	100-1
Pavel Mintyukov, Saginaw (OHL)	100-1
Denton Mateychuk, Moose Jaw	100-1

For the latest odds, go to FanDuel Sportsbook, https://sportsbook.fanduel.com/

CYCLING

109TH TOUR DE FRANCE

Wednesday's fifth stage, a 153.7-km (95-mile) Lille Metropole--Arenberg Porte Du Hainaut; *time behind leader

STAGE 5 RESULTS	
1. Simon Clarke, Australia	3:13:35
2. Taco van der Hoorn, Nether.	same
3. Edvald Boasson Hagen, Norway	:02*
4. Neilson Powless, U.S.	:04*
5. Magnus Cort Nielsen, Denmark	:30*
6. Jasper Stuyven, Belgium	:51*
7. Tadej Pogacar, Slovenia	:51*
8. Jasper Philipsen, Belgium	1:04*
9. Fabio Jakobsen, Netherlands	1:04*
10. Luca Mozzato, Italy	1:04*

Also	
62. Brandon McNulty, U.S.	2:59*
65. Matteo Jorgenson, U.S.	2:59*
129. Quinn Simmons, U.S.	3:24*

OVERALL STANDINGS

1. Wout van Aert, Belgium	16:17:22
2. Neilson Powless, U.S.	:13*
3. Edvald Boasson Hagen, Norway	:14*
4. Tadej Pogacar, Slovenia	:19*
5. Yves Lampaert, Belgium	:25*
6. Mads Pedersen, Denmark	:36*
7. Jonas Vingegaard, Denmark	:40*
8. Adam Yates, Great Britain	:48*
9. Thomas Pidcock, Great Britain	:49*
10. Geraint Thomas, Great Britain	:50*

Also

49. Brandon McNulty, U.S.	3:0*
59. Matteo Jorgenson, U.S.	3:47*
71. Sepp Kuss, U.S.	4:40*
136. Quinn Simmons, U.S.	15:16*
102. Joe Dombrowski, U.S.	23:02*
172. Kevin Vermaerke, U.S.	35:28*

YOUNG RIDERS STANDINGS

1. Tadej Pogacar, Slovenia	14:57
2. Thomas Pidcock, Great Britain	:30*
3. Jasper Philipsen, Belgium	1:22*
4. Florian Vermeersch, Belgium	2:28*
5. Luca Mozzato, Italy	2:40*
6. Brandon McNulty, U.S.	2:44*
7. Andreas Leknessund, Norway	3:00*
8. Stefan Bissegger, Switzerland	3:13*
9. Mikkel Honoré, Denmark	3:16*
10. Matteo Jorgenson, U.S.	3:28*

Also

17. Quinn Simmons, U.S.	14:57*
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WEATHER

THURSDAY

SUNRISE NOON SUNSET

Variable cloudiness with moderate humidity. East winds turning southeast around 5 mph.

HIGH 81°

LOW 64°

FRIDAY

SUNRISE NOON SUNSET

Partly sunny and warm, humid.

HIGH 84°

LOW 63°

SATURDAY

SUNRISE NOON SUNSET

Mostly sunny and less humid.

HIGH 84°

LOW 56°

SUNDAY

SUNRISE NOON SUNSET

Sunny and pleasant.

HIGH 83°

LOW 58°

MONDAY

SUNRISE NOON SUNSET

Mostly sunny and pleasant.

HIGH 87°

LOW 64°

CONNECTICUT WEATHER

For the latest weather news throughout your day.

courant.com/weather

YOURCAST

Temperatures are today's highs and tonight's lows.

Around the World

Today's forecast in cities not included in the maps above:

NEW ENGLAND

Bangor 77 58 PC
Burlington 81 68 PC
Caribou 75 54 PC
Concord 79 57 PC
Montpelier 76 54 PC
Mt. Wash. 52 44 C
Portland 75 59 PC
Woods Hole 73 68 C

NATION

Albany 79 68 PC
Albuquerque 94 69 PC
Atlantic City 80 65 SH

WORLD

Amsterdam 70 48 SH
Athens 90 73 S
Bangkok 95 81 T
Beijing 95 75 S
Beirut 86 71 PC
Berlin 68 55 R
Bermuda 83 77 PC

Stockholm 63 58 SH
Sydney 64 46 SH
Tel Aviv 85 65 PC
Tokyo 86 73 C
Toronto 79 66 PC
Vancouver 68 59 SH
Warsaw 72 59 S

WESTERN CONNECTICUT STATE UNIVERSITY Weather Center

OUTLOOK

An area of low pressure over southeastern Pennsylvania will cause an east to southeasterly flow across the region on Thursday resulting in variable cloudiness with high temperatures in the 70s and lower 80s. There will be moderate humidity levels with dew points generally in a range across the state from the mid-50s to the mid-60s. The combination of a frontal system passing south of the state and a weak cold front settling southward into the region on Friday could produce a few widely scattered showers, but overall, it should be a dry day with a partly sunny sky.

-Gary Lessor

ALMANAC

Precipitation In Inches Total Normal
Yesterday (by 7 p.m.) 0.04 0.12
Month to date 0.36 0.72
Total this year 20.53 22.89

Precipitation, temperature at Windsor Locks

Air Quality Forecast For Today

Good 32

Moderate 5

Low 81°

Air Quality Today

Ultraviolet Today

Pollen Count Yesterday

Heat Index Today

Today

Tomorrow

Sunrise 5:23 a.m. 5:24 a.m.

Sunset 8:28 p.m. 8:28 p.m.

Moonrise 1:45 p.m. 2:56 p.m.

Moonset 12:41 a.m. 1:04 a.m.

Moon Phase

Full July 13
Last July 20
New July 28
First Aug 5

Tides

N.L. State Pier
Saybrook Jetty
Connecticut River at Portland
Madison
New Haven
Stamford

High

Low

Temp.

3:52 a.m. 10:23 a.m. 71°

4:38 p.m. 11:16 p.m. 70°

5:03 a.m. 11:16 a.m. 70°

5:49 p.m. p.m.

7:46 a.m. 2:56 a.m.

8:32 p.m. 3:02 p.m.

5:24 a.m. 11:28 a.m. 70°

5:51 p.m. p.m.

5:44 a.m. 11:52 a.m. 70°

6:11 p.m. p.m.

5:48 a.m. a.m. 70°

6:15 p.m. 12:06 p.m.

River Stage at Hartford: 1.68 feet at 6:30 p.m.

Boating

Weather

Wind

Seas

L.I. Sound W

L.I. Sound E

B.I. Sound

VCloudy

VCloudy

VCloudy

E, 5-15

E, 5-15

E, 5-15

1-2 ft.

1-3 ft.

2-3 ft.

Temperature

Wednesday

High

Low

86 at 1:23 p.m.

71 at 4:47 a.m.

Normal for date

85

63

Record for date

102 in 2010

48 in 1962

A year ago

93

67

Range this year

94

-2

Cooling Degree Days

For Jan 1 - July 6

Season

Normal

Last Season

302

248

302

30-day Temperature History

Atmosphere

Barometer

Dew point

High

Low

29.88 at 7 p.m.

29.73 at 5 a.m.

68° at 6 a.m.

57° at 5 p.m.

COLLEGE ATHLETICS

NIL spending estimates surpass \$900M

Associated Press

After the first year of college sports' name, image and likeness era, football and men's basketball still claim the throne for the number of deals and average compensation, and social media remains the most popular way to get that NIL money.

The total amount spent was about \$917 million, NIL platform Opendorse estimated.

An average football deal comes out to nearly \$3,400 on two platforms. And while softball and women's basketball generally landed in the top five overall, when you subtract football, women's sports are getting more deals than men's sports, Opendorse said. Female gymnasts make big bucks, too: about \$7,000 on average per deal, according to NIL platform INFLCR.

A full accounting of the first year of NIL, from July 1, 2021, to June 30 is hard to come by, for numerous reasons. The majority of schools don't

make public the number of deals and amounts their athletes have received (though a couple have divulged some information in what could be considered recruiting or marketing strategy).

There also is no central framework for how and when deals should be reported.

"You have all of these different stakeholders involved in this ecosystem and a lack of consistency, not just in platform where information is being reported, but in requirements relative to what information is necessary," said Andrew Donovan, the executive vice president of collegiate partnerships at Altius Sports.

So it's up to major NIL tech platforms — some of which facilitate deals and disclosures, and others disclosures only — to fill in the gaps. Sort of.

"I know that what's being reported is not a full picture," said Donovan, whose organization works with 30 schools on education and strategic guidance and talks with donors, boosters, corpo-

rate partners and others. "... Athletes are regularly acknowledging to us that they're not disclosing. Schools are regularly communicating the struggles that they're having getting athletes to disclose ... It's very clear that this is not a full, complete picture of what's going on in the NIL space."

Athletes make how much?: It's a broad range. INFLCR's overall average NIL transaction value is \$1,815 through June 30. Athliance, another disclosure platform, has an average value of \$1,524.58. Though the true picture may lie in INFLCR's median NIL transaction value of \$53.

The Opendorse platform said average annual compensation for an athlete in NCAA Divisions I-III combined is \$3,438 (through May 31). By division, DI athletes saw an average of \$3,711, \$204 in DII and \$309 in DIII.

Football NIL deals tend to be hefty, with an average of \$3,390.95 on Athliance and \$3,396 on INFLCR.

BRUINS

GM Sweeney discusses future of heavy hitters, hopeful Bergeron will return

By Steve Conroy
Boston Herald

BOSTON — Bruins' GM Don Sweeney may be going into Thursday's draft without a first round pick, but he was juggling some pretty important matters in the Montreal air.

In his pre-draft meeting with reports at the Queen Elizabeth hotel on Wednesday, Sweeney and team president Cam Neely discussed the fates of captain Patrice Bergeron, superstar David Pastrnak and one-time (maybe future) foundational piece David Krejci.

Let's start with soon-to-be 37-year-old Bergeron. It's been known for a couple of weeks that the captain and reigning Selke Award winner was leaning toward returning, but no pen has reached any paper for a contract extension just yet. There is reasonable hope for a Bergeron return, however.

"My conversations with Patrice have gone well," said Sweeney. "His recovery (from elbow surgery) has gone well...we're excited that he's considering playing and moving forward with what we think is a positive mindset."

Neely echoed the same optimism.

"He went through the elbow procedure for a reason, I think, not just to feel better in the offseason. I'm starting to feel little more confident that he's leaning in the direction that we want him to lean in," said Neely.

So what could be the hold-up on getting a deal done? One reason is the fact that, as of the moment, the B's have just a little more than \$2.3 million available under the salary. Sweeney could conceivably get a deal done with an incentive-laden contract, but he would still need to move money in order to add more help. And the GM has been

exploring that option in possibly bringing back an old friend.

Jake DeBrusk likes being a Bruin again: Sweeney also addressed Jake DeBrusk rescinding his year-long trade request. He's pleased at the turn of events, but gave no guarantees that DeBrusk, who signed a two-year extension worth \$4 million a season at the trade deadline, wouldn't still be moved.

"We're very happy that Jake has turned a corner in how he feels about the Boston Bruins and wants to be with us. He had a hell of a second part of the year," said Sweeney. "He deserves a lot of credit for the production he put forth. He's looking forward to being back. If (there are) opportunities to improve the team, and Jake knows that as well, I'll have to continue to look at it. But we're happy that he's in a good place..."

When Development

Camp opens next week at Warrior Ice Arena, the B's will be missing two of their top prospects, Fabian Lysell and Mason Lohre, when the kids take the ice. Lysell, the B's first round pick in 2021, is preparing to play for Sweden in the rescheduled World Junior Championships in August while Lohrei, the B's second round pick in 2020, is recovering from knee surgery. Lohrei is expected to attend camp but won't go on the ice.

Bruins will open 2022-23 on the road: The NHL released it's 2022-23 schedule on Wednesday and the B's will open on the road against the Washington Capitals on October 12. The first home game will be October 15 against the Arizona Coyotes. The B's will also host the Pittsburgh Penguins — bought by John Henry's Fenway Sports Group — in the Winter Classic at Fenway Park on January 2, 2 p.m.

LOCAL AMATEUR BASEBALL

AMERICAN LEAGUE

TUESDAY'S LATE RESULTS

Zone 1
BRISTOL 6, SIMSBURY 3
Note: Roberto Cruz allowed 3runs (2 earned) on 1hit with 9strikeouts for the complete game win. Ryan Fradette was 2-for-4with 2home runs, 4RBI and Adam Caron was 3-for-4for Bristol. Nolan Conderino was 1-for-2with an RBI for Simsbury.

WEST HARTFORD 8, MERIDEN 5

Zone 2
MADISON AT NEW HAVEN, PPD.

WEDNESDAY'S RESULTS

Zone 1
SIMSBURY AT TORRINGTON, LATE

Zone 2
NEW HAVEN AT MADISON, LATE

Zone 3
ELLINGTON AT ENFIELD, LATE
NORTHEAST AT SOUTH WINDSOR, LATE
RCP POST AT MIDDLETOWN, LATE

THURSDAY'S SCHEDULE

Zone 1: Bristol at West Hartford, 5:30 p.m.

Zone 2: New Haven at Madison, 5:45 p.m.

Zone 3: Tri-County at Northeast, 5:45 p.m.; Windsor Locks/Windsor at Ellington, 5:45p.m.; RCP Post at South Windsor, 6:30p.m.

CONNECTICUT TWILIGHT LEAGUE

WEDNESDAY'S RESULTS

At Dunkin' Donuts Park, Hartford
AFTERSHOCK VS. OROLES, LATE
BLACK SOX VS. DODGERS, LATE

THURSDAY'S SCHEDULE

At Dunkin' Donuts Park, Hartford
Rockies vs. Patriots, 6p.m.
Knights vs. Angels, 8:30p.m.

GREATER HARTFORD TWILIGHT LEAGUE

TUESDAY'S LATE RESULT

EXPOS 8, JETS 0

WEDNESDAY'S RESULTS

COLTS AT PHILLIES, LATE
GREENERS AT CARDINALS, LATE

THURSDAY'S SCHEDULE

Graphics at People's, 6p.m.
Jets at Orioles, 6p.m.

PETE KOKINIS BASEBALL LEAGUE

TUESDAY'S LATE RESULTS

19u
ROCKY HILL 17, AHERN WHALEN-MIDDLETOWN 2
Note: Ethan Pancoast tossed a complete game for the win and Nick Aderhold was 4-for-4with 3RBI for Rocky Hill.

FARMINGTON 13, PLAINVILLE DEVILS 6
COPPERHEADS-TORRINGTON 11, NEW BRITAIN PARKS AND REC 3

16u
WEST HARTFORD THUNDER 7, STAFFORD ROYALS 6
Note: Tim Baumer struck out 8 to pick up the win. Hayden Iacobucci had 3 hits, including a homer and a triple, for Stafford.

14u
NEWINGTON RAIDERS 5, AHERN WHALEN-MIDDLETOWN 4
Note: Nik Klin allowed 2hits over 5 innings for the win. Steven Kiniry Jr. and Xavier Newton each had 2hits for Newington.

WEDNESDAY'S RESULTS

19u
SOUTHINGTON HITMEN AT NEW

BRITAIN PARKS AND REC, LATE

16u
NOR'EASTERS-NEWINGTON 12, STAFFORD ROYALS 8
Note: Eli Bengtson went 5innings on the mound for the win and had 2hits at the plate. Ben Lynch and Reece Hollfelder added 2hits each for Newington.

WEST HARTFORD THUNDER AT COPPERHEADS-TORRINGTON, LATE

14u
CT BULLDOGS-WETHERSFIELD 11, AHERN WHALEN-MIDDLETOWN 1
NEWINGTON AT FARMINGTON (2), LATE

THURSDAY'S SCHEDULE

19u: Copperheads-Torrington at Plainville Devils, 5:45p.m.; Rocky Hill at Southington Hitmen, 7:30p.m.

WNBA

Standings

	W	L	PCT	GB
Eastern				
Chicago	15	6	.714	—
Connecticut	14	8	.636	1.5
Washington	13	10	.565	3
Atlanta	10	11	.476	5
New York	8	12	.400	6.5
Indiana	5	18	.217	11
Western	W	L	PCT	GB
Las Vegas	15	6	.714	—
Seattle	14	8	.636	1.5
Los Angeles	10	11	.476	5
Dallas	10	12	.455	5.5
Phoenix	9	14	.391	7
Minnesota	8	15	.348	8

TUESDAY'S LATE RESULTS

DALLAS 82, CONNECTICUT 71
SEATTLE 95, INDIANA 73

WEDNESDAY'S RESULTS

MINNESOTA 81, CHICAGO 78
WASHINGTON AT ATLANTA, LATE
NEW YORK AT LAS VEGAS, LATE

THURSDAY'S SCHEDULE

Chicago at Indiana, 7p.m.
New York at Phoenix, 10p.m.
Seattle at Los Angeles, 10:30p.m.

TUESDAY'S LATE CT SUN BOX SCORE

WINGS 82, SUN 71

Connecticut	M	FG	FT	RB	A	PFF	PT
Bonner	33	3-10	4-4	2	4	3	11
A. Thomas	31	2-5	2-2	4	6	3	6
Jo. Jones	25	4-10	1-2	7	2	3	10
Williams	40	12-17	0-0	6	3	2	25
Hiedeman	30	1-7	0-0	2	4	1	3
B. Jones	25	6-11	4-4	3	0	2	16
Carrington	7	0-4	0-2	1	0	1	0
Clouden	6	0-0	0-0	2	2	0	0
Holmes	2	0-1	0-0	0	0	1	0
TOTALS	28-65	11-34	29	20	14	82	71

Three-point goals: 4-20, 20.0 (Bonner 1-3, Williams 1-3, Hiedeman 1-5, Jo. Jones 1-6, Holmes 0-1, Carrington 0-2). FG pct.: 43.1. FT pct.: 78.6. **Turnovers:** 13 (A. Thomas 3, Jo. Jones 3, Hiedeman 3, B. Jones 3, Bonner). **Blocks:** 4 (Jo. Jones 2, A. Thomas, B. Jones). **Steals:** 4 (A. Thomas 2, Jo. Jones, Williams).

Dallas	M	FG	FT	RB	A	PFF	PT
Gray	35	4-11	4-4	8	3	1	12
Thornton	13	0-2	0-0	0	1	1	0
Harrison	13	2-4	0-0	4	2	1	4
Ogunbowale	35	6-15	5-6	4	3	3	20
Mabrey	33	5-12	1-3	5	5	3	12
Sabally	19	6-11	0-4	3	2	2	14
McCowan	26	6-9	2-4	7	0	3	14
Harris	13	2-4	0-0	0	0	0	4
Burton	4	0-0	0-0	1	0	0	0
Kuier	9	1-3	0-0	2	3	0	2
TOTALS	32-71	12-17	34	19	14	82	71

Three-point goals: 6-26, 23.1 (Ogunbowale 3-8, Sabally 2-5, Mabrey 1-5, Harris 0-1, Kuier 0-1, Thornton 0-2, Gray 0-4). FG pct.: 45.1. FT pct.: 70.6. **Turnovers:** 9 (Mabrey 4, Gray 2, Harris 2, Sabally). **Blocks:** 6 (McCowan 4, Gray, Kuier). **Steals:** 6 (Gray 2, Ogunbowale, Mabrey, Harris, Burton).

Connecticut	18	20	16	17	—	71
Dallas	26	15	22	19	—	82

Officials: Smith, Barnett, Richardson. Att.: 3,445at College Park Center, Dallas, Texas.

Hartford Courant

FLAVOR

LIVING

Shrimp and grits recipe is best ever

By Daniel Neman
St. Louis Post-Dispatch

Excuse me for a minute while I suck up to my boss.

Not long ago, my editor mentioned in passing that her favorite thing to eat is shrimp and grits. Suddenly, and for reasons as mysterious as they are inexplicable, I was struck by a consuming desire to write about shrimp and grits.

Fortunately, as with practically everyone who has ever had it, I happen to like shrimp and grits. I still remember the first time I tried it: It was at a little neighborhood bistro in Richmond, Virginia, perhaps 30 years ago. Despite living only a few hours from South Carolina, where the dish originated and was popularized, I had not even heard of it at the time.

I was instantly intrigued. Soft, creamy grits topped with highly spiced, perfectly prepared shrimp? It sounded amazing. And it was. It was one of those dishes that you know you are going to be ordering for the rest of your life.

I don't recall ever trying to cook it before. But for the sake of my editor, I decided to make the best, richest and creamiest shrimp and grits that I possibly could.

And then I walked back that idea. I had initially planned to use heavy whipping cream in the grits, but no one needs that many calories in their lives. Half-and-half will be fine, I thought.

It was more than fine. It was spectacular. Frankly, the heavy cream would only have gilded the lily.

Making shrimp and grits is

a two-part process. Part one is the grits. Part two, as you have already deduced, is the shrimp.

Usually, grits are made just by pouring hominy (treated cornmeal) into boiling water and cooking it until the corn has absorbed the liquid and becomes soft and palatable.

But soft and palatable is not good enough for the shrimp and grits I wanted to make. I wanted my grits to have oomph, to have pizzazz. I wanted them so good that it would be an insult to call them grits.

I began with stone-ground grits, which are to grits what whole-grain flour is to all-purpose flour. It includes the outer part of the kernel, the part that gets stuck in your teeth when you eat popcorn.

This process gives the grits more texture, but that is less important than the fact that it also gives them a richer taste of corn.

More significantly, I did not boil them in water. Good cooks know that grains always taste better when they are cooked in a flavorful stock, so I used chicken broth for half of my cooking liquid. The other half was half-and-half.

That's the part that could have been heavy cream, but let's not be ridiculous. The half-and-half made the grits rich and creamy enough, especially once I stirred in some sharp cheddar cheese.

The grits were remarkable on their own, but they are only half a dish. I wanted the other half, the shrimp half, to be as good as the grits.

Naturally, I started with bacon. I rendered a couple of slices of diced, thick-cut bacon and used the bacon fat to cook minced onion, celery and green pepper.



Shrimp and grits topped with crispy bacon. HILLARY LEVIN/ST. LOUIS POST-DISPATCH

Yes, that is a New Orleans combination of ingredients, not South Carolina, but they know how to cook shrimp in New Orleans, too.

Next, I tossed some shrimp in my own mixture of celery salt, paprika, cayenne pepper and

black pepper, and sautéed them with the bacon-scented vegetables.

I sprinkled it all with a couple of tablespoons of flour, and stirred it to make a quick roux. All it needed then was more chicken

stock to create a thick and ridiculously delicious sauce.

But don't just take my word for it. I gave some to my shrimp-and-grits-loving editor. She tasted it and, with a big smile on her face, said, "It's perfect."

SHRIMP AND GRITS

Makes: 4 servings
2 ½ cups plus ¾ cup chicken stock, divided
2 ½ cups half-and-half
2 tablespoons butter
1 teaspoon salt
1 ½ teaspoons black pepper, divided
1 cup grits, preferably stone-ground
¾ cup shredded sharp cheddar cheese
2 slices thick-cut bacon, diced

⅓ cup green pepper, diced small
⅓ cup onion, diced small
½ cup celery, diced small
¼ teaspoon celery salt
¼ teaspoon paprika
⅛ teaspoon cayenne pepper, or to taste
1 pound shrimp, shelled and deveined
1 tablespoon vegetable oil
2 tablespoons all-purpose flour
1. In a large saucepan over high heat, combine 2 ½ cups of

the chicken stock and the half-and-half. Add butter, salt and 1 teaspoon pepper, and bring to a boil. Stir in grits and return to a boil. Lower heat to a gentle simmer and cook 40 to 50 minutes until done, stirring frequently. Scrape bottom of pot when stirring to keep grits from sticking. Grits are done when bubbles turn big, like volcanic magma or hot mud pools, or when they have the texture of wet mashed potatoes. Remove

from heat. Add cheese and stir until thoroughly combined. Cover to keep warm.

2. Meanwhile, in a large skillet over medium-high heat, cook bacon until crispy. Remove bacon pieces with a spoon and reserve, leaving bacon grease in pan. Add green pepper, onion and celery to the pan and sauté until onion is translucent, about 3 minutes.

3. Combine celery salt, paprika, cayenne and remaining ⅛ teaspoon

black pepper in a small bowl, and sprinkle over the shrimp; toss until evenly coated. Add the shrimp and vegetable oil to pan and sauté until the shrimp is nearly pink and curled. Sprinkle with flour and cook, stirring constantly, for 2 minutes. Add remaining ¾ cup chicken stock and cook, stirring, until the liquid thickens.

4. To serve, spoon shrimp and sauce over grits, and top with reserved crispy bacon.

Heavenly Hawaiian poke at home

By JeanMarie Brownson
Tribune Content Agency

The first time I saw the poke fish counter at a supermarket in Hawaii, I flipped. At more than 6 feet long, the counter held a dozen pans of uncooked tuna and salmon marinated in a dozen different ways.

I purchased the market's versions of raw tuna with soy and wasabi, tuna with teri-

yaki, salmon with red chile and avocado, salmon busy with sesame and more. Heavenly.

Poke, the Hawaiian word for to slice or to cut, is one of the state's signature dishes. A mix of a traditional Hawaiian technique with Japanese ingredients, at its most basic, poke is a combination of super-fresh, luxuriously rich raw fish with a tippie of sesame oil and soy sauce. A match made in heaven.

Happily, top-quality raw fish, suitable for poke, can be found on the mainland in many Asian markets and in the freezer aisle of specialty markets. The most common fish for poke is sushi-grade ahi tuna or yellowfin tuna; salmon also is delicious here. Talk to the folks in the seafood department at your local store for guidance. If there is an in-house sushi counter, they can direct you as to which fish to purchase for raw

consumption. Use your nose: The fish should smell fresh, not fishy. The color should be rich, not gray. Minimal white striations (connective tissue) ensures the tenderest bite.

Use a super-sharp knife to cut the boneless, skinless fish into ½-inch cubes. Then toss in a marinade of sesame oil, soy and red chile. While the fish

Turn to Poke, Page 2

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To understand Alsace whites, look to the past

These wines may be easy to enjoy, but they are hard to find around the nation

By Eric Asimov
The New York Times

I’ve been accused of reaching the age where I regularly refer to the past.

It is true that I’m old enough to have built up a sizable store of memories and experiences. But I’ve been focused on the past all my life.

Not because I believe in some hazy golden age from which it’s been all downhill. That’s lazy and selfish. It’s because one cannot comprehend the present without at least trying to understand the past. That’s as true of wine as it is of politics, music or the economy.

I have been thinking about this as numerous readers explained how difficult it was for them to find any wines from Alsace, the region we have been examining over the last month. To understand why, you have to look backward.

Alsace wines in the 1980s were known as excellent values combining superb quality with moderate prices. The rieslings were considered dry contrasts to their generally sweet German counterparts, while among food-and-wine aficionados gewürztraminers were the go-to recommendation for Chinese food.

Back then, however, restaurants, wine merchants and wine writers at least made the effort to promote the virtues of Alsace wines. For a long time now, that has no longer been the case. What happened?

Several things, but most important: Alsace wines through the 1990s were becoming discernibly sweeter and more voluptuous. The region had always made sweet wines, but they were clearly labeled late harvest

(vendange tardive) or special selection (sélection de grains nobles). These newer wines were a problem because they were not labeled sweet. It was an unpleasant surprise to pour a wine you expected to be dry and find instead something sweet and unbalanced.

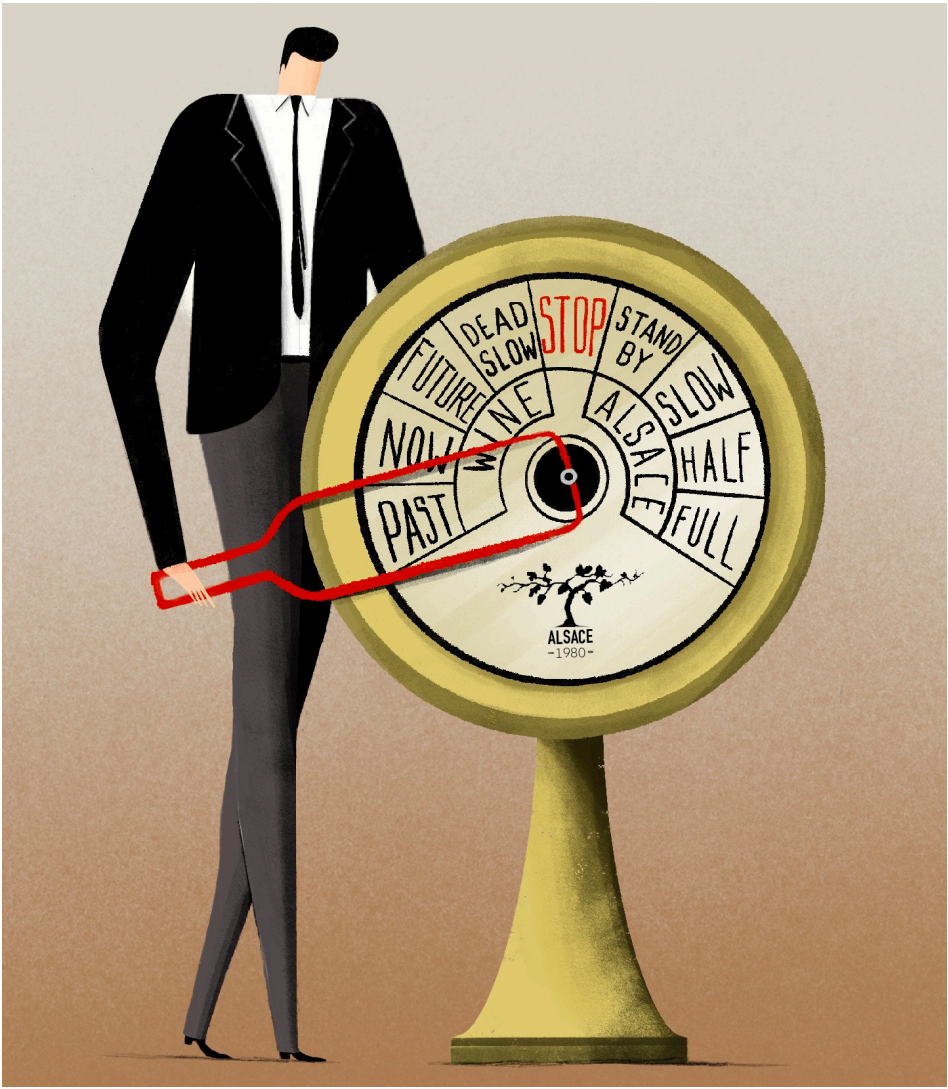
Explanations varied. Some said improved viticulture resulted in riper grapes that were naturally making sweet wines. Others said the wines were being tailored to the palates of American wine critics, who did give them high ratings. Climate change undoubtedly contributed. Whatever the reason, the wines of Alsace slipped from the American consciousness.

In the past decade, though, Alsace has gone a long way to rectify these issues. Some producers began to use a scale on their label to cue consumers to the level of sweetness. Others have made a greater effort to balance sweetness with lively acidity or to make dryer wines. But restaurants and wine merchants have not reembraced them, and they continue to be difficult to find.

Nonetheless, the wines of Alsace are distinctive and well worth getting to know. I hedged my bets by suggesting three bottles made with different grapes. They were: Trimbach Alsace Riesling 2019, Dirlé-Cadé Alsace Sylvaner Vieilles Vignes 2020 and Albert Boxler Alsace Pinot Blanc Réserve 2018.

Now, you may wonder what this history has to do with these particular wines. Certainly, this background is not essential for enjoying them. But it adds to the understanding.

For example, through the turmoil over sweetness,



PEPE SERRA/THE NEW YORK TIMES

Trimbach’s wines stayed resolutely dry and steely. This riesling was true to its lineage. It was pure and taut, with aromas of herbs and wet stones, bigger and richer than a Mosel riesling yet not at all heavy or ponderous. The French might call this “correct,” meaning it checks all the boxes for an entry-level, mainstream Alsace riesling.

The Dirlé-Cadé sylvaner tells a different story. I love sylvaner, even when rendered silvaner, as it generally is in Germany. The wine is usually light and fragrant, gentle, shy and graceful. I think of it as wonderful for a spring or summer lunch.

Sylvaner follows the

general trajectory of Alsace wines in the United States. I used to see it more often in the 1980s and early ’90s. But the market disappeared.

“We used to sell a lot of sylvaner in the United States,” Pierre Trimbach, who oversees winemaking at Trimbach, told me when I visited in 2017. “Now? Not one bottle is shipped to the U.S.”

He suggested the reason was that so much bad sylvaner had gone to the United States that people were turned off to the grape. Too bad more people had not had a sylvaner like the Dirlé-Cadé.

It smelled like a bouquet of spring flowers, yet it was

much richer and creamier than the sylvaners of my memory, possibly the result of stirring the lees, the yeast sediment, as the wine was aging, a not uncommon practice that can add texture and creaminess. On the palate it was fresh, with flavors of apples and chamomile. It was delicious, though maybe not a lunch wine at 14% alcohol.

Another reason sylvaner got a bad reputation was that the growers themselves did not take it seriously, treating it more like a workhorse rather than a grape worthy of care.

In a sense, it reminds me of aligoté in Burgundy, another grape that was thought to have little

potential until thoughtful growers started to take it more seriously and demonstrated how good it could be. Sylvaner is as important to the heritage of Alsace as aligoté is to Burgundy, so it is heartening to see such good versions.

Pinot blanc, another historic wine in Alsace, gets so little love that most of the time we have no idea what grape goes into the wine. Although pinot blanc is indeed a grape, Alsace wines called pinot blanc can be made entirely of auxerrois, a grape that is widely planted in the region, or in a blend with pinot blanc.

Why is this permitted in an area known for varietal labeling? One winemaker told me a few years ago that much of the pinot blanc in Alsace was from a clone developed for quantity rather than quality, so this was an effort to avoid insipid wines. This would assume that auxerrois is of better quality, but that’s not clear.

The Boxler, I believe, is made of two-thirds actual pinot blanc and one-third auxerrois. It had aromas of fresh apples, honeysuckle and beeswax, and was rich, though not as rich as the sylvaner. I found it a bit high in alcohol at 14.5%. The 2018 vintage was quite hot, and I thought of this perhaps as a climate change wine.

At least one reader agreed with me: “14.5% is just too high,” said Tracie Barnes of Denver.

All told, these were a good, if cursory, introduction to what Alsace has to offer, including the potential of the grapes and the terroirs, as well as the occasional confusion that continues to stymie consumers. If you get a chance, though, the top wines from each of these producers are worth pursuing to get a sense of the depth and complexity that you can find in these wines.

Poke

from Page 1

marinates (from 30 minutes to several hours), prepare some slightly sweetened sushi rice and an assortment of toppings for do-it-yourself rice bowls.

If tuna or salmon are not options, substitute peeled, cooked shrimp or scallops here. Meatless bowls can be made by marinating cubes of firm tofu or roasted eggplant in place of seafood.

SPICY TUNA AND AVOCADO RICE BOWLS WITH PICKLED SHALLOT AND EGG

Makes: 3 servings

Note: Always thaw frozen fish in the refrigerator to help preserve texture. 3 or 4 large shallots, 6 ounces total, very thinly sliced
6 tablespoons seasoned rice vinegar, divided
¼ teaspoon salt
1 cup short-grain sushi rice
2 pieces frozen or super-fresh, skinless ahi tuna fillet (or sushi-grade salmon), 12 ounces total
2 tablespoons organic soy sauce
2 teaspoons dark sesame oil
1 teaspoon sesame seeds, plus more for garnish
½ teaspoon togarashi chili pepper seasoning or finely crushed red pepper flakes, optional
2 large eggs
Vegetable cooking spray or oil
Spicy mayo (see recipe)
½ seedless cucumber, peeled
1 medium-size ripe avocado, halved, pitted
3 or 4 green onions, trimmed

Optional toppings:
Chopped fresh cilantro
Crumbled nori
Pickled ginger slices

1. For pickled shallots, put the slices into a bowl. Cover with boiling water and then immediately drain. Shake off excess water. Return shallots to bowl and stir in 4 tablespoons of the vinegar and ¼ teaspoon salt. Stir well and let stand 15 minutes or up to 1 hour. Refrigerate covered for up to a week.

2. Cook rice in rice cooker



Poke, the Hawaiian word for to slice or to cut, is one of the state’s signature dishes. **JEANMARIE BROWNSON/TNS**

according to manufacturer’s directions (or cook on stovetop according to package directions). Transfer cooked rice to a wide bowl. Fluff rice with fork while drizzling in the remaining 2 tablespoons vinegar. Let cool to room temperature, fluffing it often to release the steam. Use rice at room temperature.

3. While rice cools, cut fish into ½-inch pieces. Mix soy sauce, sesame oil, sesame seeds and chili flakes in bottom of a glass or stainless-steel bowl. Add fish pieces and toss to coat. Let stand at room temperature while you prepare other bowl ingredients (or refrigerate up to several hours; serve at room temperature).

4. Beat eggs together with 1 tablespoon water. Heat a 10-inch nonstick skillet over medium heat until hot. Spray with vegetable spray or oil. Add beaten eggs. Swirl pan to thinly spread out eggs. Cook on low, without stirring, until set but not brown, about 2 minutes. Lift up the edge of the eggs

with a spatula and flip to cook the other side a little. Slide out of the pan onto a cutting board. Let cool. Roll up the egg and slice it thinly crosswise to make thin strips.

5. Make spicy mayo. Use a vegetable peeler to make long cucumber strips and roll the strips (or dice the cucumber into ¼-inch pieces). Cut avocado into ½-inch pieces. Thinly slice green onions on the diagonal. Set everything out in small bowls.

6. To assemble each serving, put 2 large scoops of cooled rice into the bottom of a deep soup bowl. Top with ⅓ of the fish mixture, then top with some of the pickled shallots, cucumber, avocado and green onions. Sprinkle with cilantro, sesame seeds and crumbled nori. Drizzle generously with spicy mayo and serve with pickled ginger.

Spicy mayo: Mix ¼ cup mayonnaise with 1 to 2 tablespoons red pepper hot sauce. (I like piri piri hot sauce here.)



I asked what kind of family Amina wanted. She said, ‘A family like yours.’ That’s when I knew I had to adopt her.

Denise, adopted 17-year-old Amina



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Fried zucchini is perfect summer appetizer

By **Jesse Szewczyk**
TheKitchn.com

I love zucchini in any and all forms — whether that’s grilled, added to soups and stews, shredded or even served raw.

But my absolute favorite way to enjoy zucchini is when it’s breaded and fried into crisp, golden-brown batons.

There’s just something about the crunchy outside contrasting against the tender zucchini center that can’t be beat. Dunk them into your favorite sauce, and you have the perfect summer appetizer.

This is my go-to method for making fried zucchini. It produces impossibly crisp spears that just about anyone would love.

They’re perfectly golden, light and just the thing to kick off a summer soiree.

Should I salt zucchini before frying?

Yes, you should always salt your zucchini before frying, especially if you’re aiming to achieve a crispy texture. Salting your zucchini helps remove the excess moisture stuck in the zucchini that would otherwise make frying a challenge. To do so, place your cut zucchini in a colander nestled inside of a bowl. Sprinkle the zucchini with one teaspoon of salt and give it a toss. Let the zucchini drain for one hour and discard any liquid that accumulates in the bowl. After that, you’re ready to fry!

How do you keep fried zucchini from getting soggy?

Salting your zucchini is the most important step in preventing it from getting soggy. Additionally, make sure your pan is properly preheated before frying the breaded zucchini. Adding the zucchini to a cold pan will make it come out oily and soft rather than crisp and golden.



Zucchini with an impossibly crispy, crunchy exterior without deep-frying? Yes, please. **JOE LINGEMAN/THEKITCHN.COM**

FRIED ZUCCHINI

Makes: 4 to 5 servings
2 medium zucchini, about 1 ½ pounds
1 ¼ teaspoons kosher salt, divided
1 medium lemon
1 cup all-purpose flour
½ teaspoon paprika
½ teaspoon freshly ground black pepper
2 large eggs
2 cups panko breadcrumbs
4 tablespoons olive oil, divided
Flaky salt, for serving (optional)
Dipping sauce, such as garlic aioli or remoulade (optional)

1. Trim the stems off of 2 medium zucchini and slice them in half

crosswise. Cut the zucchini lengthwise into planks about ½-inch thick. Working with two of the stacked planks at a time, cut crosswise into ½-inch-wide batons. Repeat with the remaining zucchini planks.

2. Place the zucchini batons in a colander placed inside of a bowl. Sprinkle with ¾ teaspoon kosher salt and toss to evenly distribute. Let the zucchini sit uncovered at room temperature for 1 hour, stirring occasionally. Meanwhile cut 1 medium lemon into wedges.

3. In a large, shallow bowl, combine 1 cup all-purpose flour, ½ teaspoon paprika, ½ teaspoon black pepper

and remaining ½ teaspoon kosher salt. Whisk 2 large eggs with a fork in a second large, shallow bowl until broken up with no streaks of egg white. Place 2 cups panko breadcrumbs in a third large, shallow bowl.

4. Transfer the zucchini onto a paper towel-lined plate and pat dry. Discard the water collected at the bottom of the bowl.

5. Working with a few pieces of zucchini at a time, dredge in the flour mixture. Then, working with 1 piece at a time, shake off excess flour and dredge in the eggs, then the breadcrumb mixture, gently pressing the breadcrumbs into the zucchini so

they stick. Place in a single layer on a large plate or baking sheet.

6. Heat 2 tablespoons olive oil in a 10-inch or larger nonstick skillet over medium heat until shimmering. Add half of the breaded zucchini in a single layer and cook, flipping 2 or 3 times depending on the shape of the batons, until lightly browned on all sides, 2 to 3 ½ minutes per side. Transfer the zucchini onto a paper towel-lined plate. Wipe down the pan if needed, then add the remaining 2 tablespoons olive oil and repeat cooking the remaining zucchini.

7. Serve immediately with lemon wedges, flaky salt and your favorite dipping sauce (if using).

A good rule of thumb is to preheat your pan for a full minute before frying your first batch. Once your zucchini is in the pan, let it cook undisturbed and try your best to avoid moving it

too much before flipping.

Tips for making the best fried zucchini

Before you head into the kitchen to fry zucchini, keep these tips in mind:

■ Don’t overcrowd the pan. When frying the zucchini, make sure there is at least ½ inch of space between each spear. This will help the zucchini brown evenly and become perfectly crisp.

■ Let the zucchini drain on a paper towel after frying. This will remove the excess oil and ensure the zucchini turns out nice and crisp.

■ Serve them with fresh lemon juice and a flourish

of flaky sea salt. The pop of acidity brightens everything up while the additional salt creates that fried-and-salty combination that is impossible to resist.



For this loaf, strawberries are macerated with sugar first to remove some of their liquid. **CON POULOS FOR THE NEW YORK TIMES**

Serve up a slice of summer with strawberry-lemon cake

By **Millie Peartree** | The New York Times

This cake is summer in a loaf pan. When baked, strawberries can become sour and a little gummy. Here, berries are macerated with sugar first to remove some of their liquid and concentrate their flavor. The lemon icing adds a nice finish.

STRAWBERRY-LEMON LOAF CAKE

Time: 1 ½ hours
Makes: One 9-inch loaf
For the cake:
Nonstick cooking spray
1 cup diced strawberries
1 cup plus 1 tablespoon granulated sugar
1 ½ cups all-purpose flour
1 tablespoon lemon zest (from 1 lemon)
2 teaspoons baking powder
½ teaspoon kosher salt, such as Diamond Crystal
1 cup sour cream, at room temperature
½ cup vegetable oil
3 large eggs, at room temperature
1 tablespoon lemon juice
1 teaspoon pure vanilla extract
For the lemon glaze:
1 cup confectioners’ sugar
1 tablespoon lemon zest (from 1 lemon)
2 tablespoons lemon juice
1. Make the cake: Heat oven to 350 degrees. Spray a 9-by-5-inch loaf pan with nonstick cooking spray and set aside. In a small bowl,

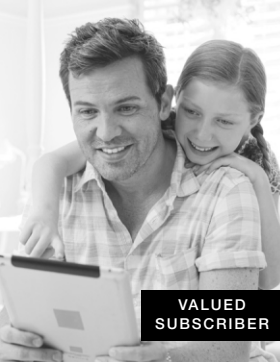
toss the strawberries with 1 tablespoon sugar to macerate while you prepare the cake batter.

2. In a large bowl, combine the flour, lemon zest, baking powder, salt and remaining 1 cup sugar. Whisk to combine. In a second bowl, combine the sour cream, oil, eggs, lemon juice and vanilla extract. Whisk to combine.

3. Pour the wet ingredients into the dry, and stir to mix. Lift the macerated berries out of their liquid and add them to the batter. Gently fold in the berries until evenly incorporated.

4. Pour the batter into the prepared loaf pan. Bake until a skewer inserted into the middle comes out clean, 60 to 70 minutes. If it appears to be browning on top too much, tent with aluminum foil. Cool it in the pan on a rack for 10 minutes, then unmold the cake carefully and transfer to the rack to cool completely.

5. Make the glaze: In a small bowl, combine the confectioners’ sugar with the lemon zest and juice, and stir until smooth. Pour the glaze over the cooled cake. Let stand until set.



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ROASTED MIXED VEGETABLES

Makes: 2 to 3 servings
Total time: 45 minutes
For the vegetables: 8 cups vegetables (any combination of broccoli, zucchini, cherry tomatoes, Brussels sprouts, mushrooms), cut into 1-inch pieces (see note)
2 tablespoons extra-virgin olive oil, plus more for serving
1 ¼ teaspoons kosher salt (such as Diamond Crystal)
Freshly ground black pepper
4 fresh thyme sprigs or 1 teaspoon dried thyme (optional)

For the (optional) garlicky yogurt sauce: 1 cup whole-milk Greek yogurt
1 to 2 garlic cloves, finely grated or minced
1 tablespoon extra-virgin olive oil
Pinch each salt and freshly ground black pepper
1. Prepare the vegetables: Heat oven to 425 degrees. Add the vegetables to a rimmed sheet pan. Add 2 tablespoons oil, the salt, pepper and thyme (if using), and gently toss vegetables to coat. Use your hands to spread the vegetables out into one layer, spacing them evenly all over the pan.
2. Transfer to oven and roast until they are tender and browned, 30 to 40 minutes, stirring at least once during roasting for even cooking.
3. While vegetables roast, you can make yogurt sauce if you like: In a small bowl, combine yogurt, garlic, oil, salt and pepper. Taste and adjust seasoning. Cover and place in the refrigerator until ready to use.
4. Serve roasted vegetables with a dollop of garlic yogurt, if desired, and a drizzle of oil on top.
Note: If you'd like to use denser vegetables, use any combination of carrots, potatoes, sweet potatoes, turnips, butternut squash and cauliflower, cut into 1-inch chunks. Add an extra tablespoon of oil and extra ½ teaspoon of salt. Roast for 40 to 50 minutes. These vegetables take longer to cook and absorb more oil while roasting.
— *Recipe by Melissa Clark*

VEGETABLE TOFU CURRY

Makes: 2 to 4 servings
Total time: 20 minutes
2 broccoli heads, 8 ounces green beans or 2 cups frozen peas, or a combination
1 (14- to 16-ounce) container firm tofu
1 (13.5-ounce) can coconut milk
1 medium onion, chopped
Salt and pepper
1 tablespoon curry powder, plus more to taste
Cooked rice or other grains or noodles, for serving
Hot sauce, for serving (optional)
1. If using broccoli, trim the ends of the stems and discard, then cut the stems off near the base of the florets. Cut off the thick peel around the stems, then cut the stems into ½-inch slices. Cut the broccoli crowns into small florets. Drain the tofu and cut into 1-inch cubes.
2. Open the can of coconut milk and spoon off an inch or so of the hard white solid part into a large saucepan with a lid. (If the milk is all liquid, add a few spoonfuls.) Turn the heat to medium-high. When the solids melt, add the onion and broccoli stems, if using, and sprinkle with salt and pepper. Cook, uncovered, stirring occasionally, until the onion is translucent, 5 to 7 minutes. The coconut milk liquid should have evaporated, so the onions should be sizzling in coconut oil and the milk solids should be brown and smell toasty. Scrape up any bits sticking to the bottom.
3. Turn heat down to medium-low, add curry powder and stir until evenly mixed, about 10 seconds. Add remaining coconut milk, stir and bring to a simmer. Add the tofu and spread the cubes in an even layer, then top with the broccoli florets or other vegetables, sprinkle with salt and cover with the lid. Cook until the vegetables are just tender but still bright green, 5 to 7 minutes.
4. Gently stir so vegetables are also coated in sauce. Taste and stir in more curry powder, salt and pepper if you'd like. Serve hot over rice or other grains or noodles, with hot sauce if you want.
— *Recipe by Genevieve Ko*



Guacamole. JULIA GARTLAND/THE NEW YORK TIMES PHOTOS



Cheesy eggs and toast will hone your egg-cracking skills.



Lemony chicken with potatoes and oregano is an all-in-one dinner that will leave you feeling accomplished.

Cook up some CONFIDENCE

Beginner recipes that will help you master the kitchen

By **Nikita Richardson** | The New York Times

We all have to start somewhere. That's the inspiration behind this small but mighty collection of recipes for absolute beginners. We're talking can-hardly-boil-water beginners. Maybe you just graduated from college and are on your own for the first time, or perhaps you never quite got the hang of cooking.

Not to worry! These dishes — ranging from guacamole to oven-roasted chicken thighs with potatoes and lemons

— are a fantastic place to start. Because no one wakes up one day and can suddenly, say, run a marathon or, in this case, cook.
But anyone can make something good to eat. With a little help from columnists Melissa Clark, Genevieve Ko and Eric Kim, you'll become the cook you always wanted to be: a confident one.
Start with the recipes here. With practice, repetition and patience, you'll not only develop a set of skills that you can apply to other recipes, but you'll have some delicious dishes under your belt worth cooking on repeat.



Roasted vegetables can be mixed and matched according to your taste. Serve them with a dollop of garlic yogurt.



Vegetable tofu curry with a fragrant coconut sauce is a one-pot meal that is simple to pull off.

LEMONY CHICKEN WITH POTATOES AND OREGANO

Makes: 2 servings
Total time: 50 minutes
2 lemons
1 ¼ pounds bone-in, skin-on chicken thighs (2 to 3), patted dry with paper towels (see note)
1 ¼ pounds Yukon Gold potatoes, scrubbed, halved and cut into ½-inch wedges
1 ¾ teaspoons dried oregano, plus more for serving
1 ½ teaspoons kosher salt (such as Diamond Crystal), plus more for serving
¾ teaspoon freshly ground black

pepper
3 tablespoons extra-virgin olive oil
Mayonnaise, mustard, ketchup or hot sauce, for serving
1. Heat oven to 425 degrees and, if you like, line a sheet pan with parchment paper (not essential but helpful for cleaning up).
2. Trim the ends off 1 lemon, then cut lemon in half crosswise. Thinly slice one half of the lemon into rounds, then cut rounds into quarters, creating small triangles. Shake out seeds, then place lemon quarters into a large bowl. Save remaining lemon half for serving. Cut remaining whole lemon into wedges, for serving.
3. Add chicken and potatoes to the

large bowl with lemon quarters. Add the oregano, salt and pepper; toss well. (Your hands are the best tools here.) Drizzle in the oil and toss again.
4. Arrange chicken thighs skin side up on one half of the prepared sheet pan, and potatoes and lemons on the other, spreading the potatoes out into one layer. Roast for 20 minutes. Using a long-handled spoon, stir the potatoes, then spread them out again in one layer. (You don't have to touch the chicken.) Continue roasting until chicken and potatoes are cooked through and everything is golden and crisped, another 15 to 20 minutes (40 to 45 minutes total roasting time).

5. To serve, squeeze juice from lemon half all over chicken and potatoes, and give everything a good stir to incorporate all the tasty juices and browned bits at the bottom of pan. Sprinkle with more oregano and salt, and serve with additional lemon wedges and condiments on the side.
Note: You can substitute 1 ¼ pounds chicken drumsticks for the thighs, or use a combination of thighs and drumsticks. Bone-in, skin-on breasts can also be substituted; because they cook more quickly than dark meat does, you'll need to start checking on them after 30 minutes of total roasting time.
— *Recipe by Melissa Clark*

GUACAMOLE

Makes: 2 cups (4 appetizer servings)
Total time: 10 minutes
½ cup finely chopped white onion (from 1 small onion)
2 tablespoons fresh lime juice (from about 1 lime)
Salt and black pepper
1 jalapeño
2 ripe avocados
1. In a medium bowl, combine the onion and lime juice, and season with salt and pepper. Let that sit as you chop the jalapeño.
2. Cut the hard stem end off of the jalapeño and discard, then slice the chile in half lengthwise. If you don't want the spice, use your knife or a spoon to remove the inner seeds and white membrane (this is where most of the chile's heat resides). If you enjoy the heat, then leave all of that in. Chop the jalapeño as finely as you can and add to the bowl with the onion and lime juice. Be sure to wash your hands very well with soap after handling spicy chiles like jalapeños, and whatever you do, do not touch your eyes after handling them.
3. Cut the avocados in half lengthwise and pull the halves apart. You can use your knife to pit the avocados, but a safer way is to hold the avocado half in one hand so that your thumb is touching the skin side where the pit is and your index and middle fingers are touching the flesh side around the pit. Gently press your fingers into each other to pop the pit out; with a ripe avocado, it should come out very easily. Use your hands to squeeze the avocado flesh out into the bowl with the other ingredients, or scoop it out with a spoon.
4. Using a fork, gently mash the avocados against the side of the bowl until they are mashed to your desired consistency, then stir them into the other ingredients until well combined. Taste and add more salt if desired.
5. Contrary to popular belief, adding avocado pits to guacamole does nothing to prevent oxidation, but if you press a good layer of plastic wrap or parchment paper directly over the guacamole and store it in the refrigerator, it will keep well for up to 2 days.
— *Recipe by Eric Kim*

CHEESY EGGS ON TOAST

Makes: 1 serving
Total time: 10 minutes
2 large eggs
Salt and pepper
1 ½ tablespoons unsalted butter
1 slice bread
¼ cup shredded cheese (cheddar, Monterey Jack or a blend)
1. Crack the eggs into a bowl and sprinkle generously with salt and pepper. Beat with a fork until evenly yellow. Leave the bowl next to the stove while you make the toast.
2. In a small nonstick skillet, melt a thin slice of the butter over medium-low heat. Swipe the bread in the melted butter to soak it all up. Let sit until golden brown, 2 to 3 minutes. Add another thin slice of butter to the pan then flip the bread, swiping it in the newly melted butter until it's all soaked up. Turn the heat to the lowest setting and let the bread sit until lightly browned, 1 to 2 minutes. Transfer to a plate.
3. Add the remaining butter and the eggs and cook, stirring gently and constantly with a wooden spoon, until the butter melts and the eggs are half wet and half solid, 15 to 45 seconds. Turn off the heat, add the cheese and continue stirring until the mixture is creamy but no longer wet, about 30 to 45 seconds. Scrape onto the toast right away and enjoy.
— *Recipe by Genevieve Ko*